THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

Vol. 54 DECEMBER 15, 1929 No. 22

Christmas Number

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS AT YOUR LIBRARY
Mildred O. Peterson

A LIBRARY CHRISTMAS TREE
Serena C. Bailey

FACTORS IN DETERMINING SUBJECT HEADINGS
Julia Pettee

WHO SHALL DECIDE WHAT WE CAN'T READ?
Carl L. Cannon

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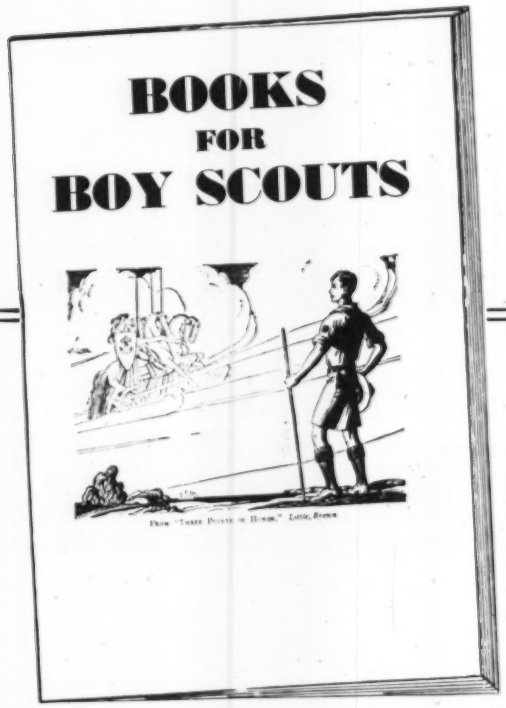

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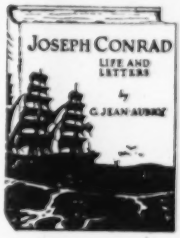

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Forthcoming Issues of THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL reaches the end of its fifty-fourth volume with the hope that it has covered at least adequately most of the divisions of the diversified library field. The program for forthcoming numbers looks forward to articles which will bring forward new topics and supplement the old. The February first issue, for instance, with its accounts of bookwagons in Dayton, Cincinnati, and Haverhill, Mass., will be a useful complement to our County Number of last August. An issue on Library Equipment in March will consider the proper equipment of both public and university libraries.

As already announced, the January first number will take up the subject of Branch Book Buying, with articles by Dr. Bostwick, Forrest Spaulding, Bessie Sargeant Smith and Emma V. Baldwin. With this number will be mailed the complete annual index to THE LIBRARY JOURNAL for 1929. Its first section indexes articles and news items, and the second is in itself a nearly complete directory to appointments, resignations and changes of occupations among the entire library profession during an active year.

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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

DECEMBER 15, 1929

The Spirit of Christmas at Your Library

Libraries Should Be Delightful, Festive and Helpful Places at Christmas Time. A Decorated Tree and Christmas Book Suggestions Are Some of the Methods by Which the Des Moines Public Library Realizes This Ambition

By Mildred Othmer Peterson

Director of Publicity, Des Moines Public Library, Iowa

Several weeks before Christmas the booksellers, as well as other merchants, find themselves standing in front of the town's finest department store wondering how many of the department store's sales can be attributed to the window displays set forth to attract the buyer who is not sure of himself, but who is ever ready to give attention to merchandise displayed so attractively that it cannot escape him. This should give the librarian two suggestions: to decorate for Christmas and to assist the gift buyer in every way possible to select the right kind of books for gifts. Why should the library be less attractively decorated than the stores, the churches, the homes or the main streets in a city? With this in mind, the Des Moines (Iowa) Public Library several years ago began what has since become an annual custom, that of decorating a book Christmas tree.

On a certain night, several weeks before Christmas, the entire staff meets to prepare these unique decorations for the tree. Book jackets, which have been carefully saved for the occasion, scissors, paste, wire, string, tinsel and various other decorating material are ready to be transformed into hundreds of Christmas tree decorations. All the ornaments for the tree are made from the colorful covers of books. They are large, small, round, square, oblong, even, uneven—in fact, of every size and description you can imagine, depending only upon the artistic and imaginative ability of the staff members. Many of the jackets are clipped so as to represent the books themselves and are placed upon the tree to represent the gifts.

The decorated tree, which is about 15 ft. in height, is placed in the center of the rotunda of the library and is surrounded with book-gift suggestions. All other decorations are secondary to this. Evergreens outline the windows, arches and doorways and hang from the pillars. Baskets and silver cornucopias hold the holly, and even a sprig of mistletoe is hidden among the greens over a doorway. Smilax and poinsettias might be used in profusion in those parts of the country where they are plentiful. In the children's department a smaller tree is placed in the center of the room. Snow made of cotton, picked out to just the right degree of fluffiness, is lightly laid along the branches, upon which a thin glue of gum arabic is dropped to hold it in place. Diamond dust, like snow crystals, is sprinkled over all. In place of cotton, handfuls of the silken down from dried milkweed pods can be used. The sharp needles catch the winged seeds as they fall, and they rest on all the branches, waving lightly with every breath of air, but holding

firmly enough so that but few of them escape. Threads of silver tinsel and the book jacket ornaments complete the decoration of the tree.

A "little theater" is made in one of the vacant shelves along one side of the room, above a radiator. Pleated green sateen is used for the curtains. The story of the Nativity is depicted in front of a background made of dark blue paper upon which silver stars are pasted. A larger star, the Star of Bethlehem, shines over the manger.

Each one of the nine library branches plans its own decorations, and on one occasion a money prize, to be used for the purchase of special books which ordinarily could not be purchased, was given to the branch with the most effective decorations. The amount to be spent on decorations was stipulated in advance. At several of the branches the pupils from entire schoolrooms came in a body to visit the library and inspected the collections of children's books on display and sang Christmas carols.

Children from a club at one library decided to give the birds a Christmas feast and so decorated their outside tree accordingly. Cranberries and popcorn were strung and placed on the branches. Small paper baskets, folded by the children, were filled with bird seed, while carrots and lettuce were placed on the lower branches for the rabbits and nuts were scattered on the ground for the squirrels. Later, the children continued their Christmas activity and built a bird shelter and kept food there throughout the winter months.

A small town library made the following plans with the cooperation of the entire community for a Christmas tree and entertainment held out of doors. A community meeting was held and committees were appointed to take care of the tree, decoration, entertainment and invitations. The tree committee was composed of the boys of the community. The tree, having been transplanted, was their gift to the library and community. Many were the tramps taken before a tree was found strong, sturdy and perfect in form. The decorating committee was composed of every child in the community. Acorn cups served as candle holders, and bunches of pine needles and cones were dipped in various colors, only nature's gifts being used in the decoration. The invitation committee was divided into sub-committees who made personal visits and invited all the members of the community and those residing within five miles. Another committee made a list of the shut-ins, those too old too walk or those without means of reaching the library, and transportation was provided for all. The committee on entertainment asked the oldest people to tell of the Christmas of long ago. Many told of Christmas in their home lands. Foreigners once, Americans now, gave to their community service and cooperation. To complete the program the children acted several well-known Christmas stories, sang Christmas carols and the librarian told a Christmas story.

A definite part of all library decorations, exhibits or displays should be books. What is more fitting than a library advertising and suggesting books for Christmas gifts? Douglas Jerrold has said, "A blessed companion is a book—a book that is fitly chosen is a lifelong friend." Suggested books on various subjects and for various ages may be placed around the Christmas tree and on nearby tables. Lists of these books may be distributed through the regular mailing list, to Parent-Teacher Associations, clubs, organizations and patrons at the library. Many persons are interested in the

dollar books, lists of which may be obtained from the publishers. Original illustrations from books make very attractive displays not only at this time of the year but also at other times. Library patrons enjoy browsing in the library and looking over the library's Christmas book gift suggestions before purchasing, for at the library there is no clerk pressing the patron for a sale. Radio talks on new books and their authors is another means of bringing books to the public's attention, and book posters are always effective.

The library has a gift which it can sell—it is the *Reading with a Purpose* series. With its over forty courses it has a wide appeal and makes a worthwhile gift at a very nominal price. If it is attractively wrapped in holly paper and mailed for the purchaser even more can be sold!

Libraries should be delightful, festive and helpful places at Christmas time. Lyle Saxon's description of bookstores might well be said of libraries as well, "The bookstores seem like treasure houses—novels, essays, poems, history, biography, travel books and books on art. There are so many beautiful books—so many exquisitely printed books—so many gorgeously decorative books. It seems to me that all the glorious things in the world have been caught and confined between the pages of books, in order to make a Christmas paradise for readers."

To its patrons and friends the Des Moines Public Library expressed the Season's greetings through its monthly publication, *Book Marks*, on the cover of which was a picture of the library Christmas tree and the greeting "The Library Staff Wishes You and Every User of the Library a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year in Which the Reading of Good Books May Contribute Its Share of Joy and Happiness."

A Library Christmas Tree

By Serena C. Bailey

Formerly Cataloger, St. Viator College Library, Bourbonnais, Illinois

As the Christmas season approached, the spirit of Christmas inspired the staff of St. Viator College Library to arrange an original Christmas display. On the bulletin board outside the entrance to the reading room was placed a holly wreath in the center of which was a Christmas card made from a plain catalog card. In one corner of the card was pasted the picture of a small boy reading an enormous book and in the opposite corner a scroll. At the top was printed MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM THE LIBRARY, and below it was the verse,

> Now there are but five days needing,
> Have you done your Christmas reading?

The guard-hole of the catalog card was hidden by one corner of an envelope, on which was printed,

> Mr. Library Friend
> St. Viator College
> Bourbonnais
> Illinois

But how best to advertise the Christmas wares offered by the library? How better than with a tree—a tree laden with books! Treasures of divers kinds from divers lands! So books were produced in several languages and in various bindings. Books a little less than 2½ by 4 centimeters—Liliputian books that a little girl might covet for her doll's library table. Most of the works were in English. First was a miniature *Bible* with the text, "For this day is born to you a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord, in the city of David." There were tiny volumes of Shakespeare, Milton, Franklin, Irving and numerous other English and American writers. But in a library with a goodly proportion of foreign works, in a college where so many of the Fathers and Brothers are at home in ancient and modern languages, there had to be at least one representative from the ancient and one from the modern group. A small Latin book was produced that was indeed a *de luxe* edition for the artistic, colorful envelope lining of an early-mailed Christmas card provided the handsome cover and the lining papers were purple. But what of the text? Printed in tiny letters were, "*Gloria in excelsis Deo: Venite adoremus.*" The French work was another proud production, for the text was "*Voici notre Dieu, né d'une Vierge; le Seigneur de gloire est enveloppé de langes,*" and the paper cover was a rich purple decorated with a tiny medallion-like picture of the Holy Child. The title *Jesus Notre Sauveur* was lettered in white ink and the whole cover shellacked. The title of another book was *Der Tannenbaum* for it was felt that the tree would not be complete without a quotation from the land of the Christmas tree. This volume had a red cover decorated with a snow-laden fir tree.

A notice regarding the display was placed in

the refectory. A little cut-out Christmas tree made an ideal poster when a rhyme which at least fitted the shape of the tree was added:

Come and see
Our Christmas tree
Books in green and books in blue,
Books in French and English too.
Do come in and take a look
At each charming Christmas book!
—*The Library.*

One of the Fathers suggested the adding of the College paper, so the Academy paper, *The Wave*, the Academy annual, the *Voyageur*, and the College paper, the *Viatorian*, were produced in miniature form. Books, magazines and attractive figures laden with books were tied to the tree with gilt cord. Then the tree was decorated with small flowers and bright garlands, dusted with and set in snow and placed on a stand in the reading room. At its snowy base were arranged many attractive Christmas books from the library shelves and below it all hung the poster,

MAKE IT A BOOK CHRISTMAS

Fort Wayne's Christmas Exhibit

Fort Wayne's Annual Exhibit of the Season's Books Helps Its Patrons to Buy Wisely and Profitably When Selecting Books for Christmas Gifts

By Mary E. Rossell

Circulation Department Head, Public Library of Fort Wayne and Allen County, Indiana

THE MONTH of December is a very pleasant one in the Circulation Department of the Public Library of Fort Wayne and Allen County. During that month the library has an exhibit of the new fall books for adults. The books are arranged on low shelves and tables near the main desk. Chairs are placed in such a way as to invite browsing, and posters and Christmas greens are used to add color. It is arranged as nearly like our ideal of what a book shop *should be* as possible. The books are divided roughly by class and include the best of the new novels as well as the non-fiction; the biography table is always full to overflowing and attracts a great deal of attention.

The idea of this exhibit is to give the people of Fort Wayne a chance to see and handle the season's books before deciding on purchasing them as gifts. There is no book store in town that carries a very large stock, and the public depends on the library to help them make their Christmas selections. As a further aid, a list of specially attractive books is made and given out during the month of December, and the head of the department is kept busy trying to pick out just the right book for relative or friend. Last year a father came in with his fourteen-year-old son to decide on a book to give to the mother of the family. While choosing the book for mother, son's eyes were caught by a well-illustrated book about North American Indians. He was so enthusiastic over it that the father decided that he wouldn't have to look any further for the boy's Christmas present, and got the information he needed for purchasing it, while the son was eagerly studying arrow heads and other Indian relics. In this way a great deal of the kindliness and joy of Christmas giving is vicariously received.

During the time the exhibit is being held, a borrower may reserve any non-fiction titles, and reserves are filled in the order in which they are made.

Factors in Determining Subject Headings

By Julia Pettee

Head Cataloger, Union Theological Seminary, New York City

As I thought over my topic, so many factors in determining subject headings seemed to reach far down into the subconscious that I wondered if I oughtn't to go to a psychoanalyst. Nothing less, probably, could bring all of them up. All my headings are in a new field. They are determined by the wholesale. I finally concluded that the only thing I could do and still stick to my topic would be to try to analyze my own processes of working and state these as far as they touch upon fundamental principles. This I have tried to do.

Two quite different kinds of work go into my catalog. For all topics outside of theology I use the L.C. headings and give those headings little study. They have been carefully worked out by others. But in my own field I have had no lists, and this paper is written from the point of view of one establishing new headings. That is quite a differ at matter from applying headings already worked out.

I well remember my first independent theological job. Making a new classification did not phase me. But I walked the streets in a petrified daze over the subject headings. Of course I wanted everything within the covers of my theological books, in my catalog, under the minutest headings. But how was I ever to tie up all these multitudinous headings into one beautiful logical and organic whole: Monkeys, evolution, fundamentalism! I couldn't stop at the specific headings. I felt that a good catalog ought to connect these particular topics with their ramifications into science and philosophy so that a zoologist, a preacher, or even an organ grinder, could be sure of getting every bit of material from his own particular angle which the library had. I think so yet.

I had little light on that first job. But I had to put it over. I began to collect theological headings, from dictionaries, from printed catalogs, from libraries, from any and all places I could find them. I heard that the Episcopal Seminary in New York had a dictionary catalog, and I went through that for subject captions. Incidentally, over those miles of uniformly white-edged cards I swore my first rule. Put red edges on subject cards.

With these headings listed on slips, copied from everywhere, undigested and not counterchecked, I made my first catalog at Rochester. Such a list had to be compiled from the specific end. That was all right, for a beginning. It furnished a most useful check list.

But in making this first catalog I became convinced that subject headings should be worked out in a much more systematic way, worked out logically from the general to the specific, just as carefully as for a classed catalog. Since coming to Union this has been my actual method of working.

It is possible as I am reclassifying by large groups.

By putting temporary slips into the catalog I can save up the copy slips for the whole class without inconvenience, and then, with the familiarity that the actual classing of the books gives, I can deal with the subject headings as a whole.

I want to make it quite clear here that I am talking about a method of work. Please do not think that because I say I work headings out systematically that I am making some kind of classed catalog or an alphabetical-classed catalog. I am making a dictionary catalog.

The first thing is a mastery of the subject matter itself and its nomenclature. I see no short cut. Whatever type of catalog one makes there must be the same preliminary analysis of the whole subject and topics fitted into their place in this analysis. In working out subject headings you go one step farther. The value of words and phrases as suitable terms for subject headings must be considered.

To illustrate the way I work, let me take the class Church Law. That is a beautiful class because the names of the topics are well established and they can be arranged in a perfectly logical order from the general to the specific. It falls off into a number of main groups like Canon law, Church Government, and the Law of Particular Denominations. Each of these subgroups divide regularly, Church Government, for instance, into its various types, Episcopacy, Congregationalism, etc.; again, Episcopacy, to select one of these subtopics, into Apostolic Succession-Ordination, Bishops, Priests, Deacons, etc. I work these lines all out until my church law looks like a genealogical tree in full bloom.

I not only work them out theoretically but actually with the copy slips which I keep in a classed order until I have accumulated all the subject headings needed for the whole class. In this way I get the run of all the headings and their relationships to each other, before determining the forms of headings.

In fixing the forms I run upon exactly the

same problems I had in fixing the classification. The same topics appear under several of the classed schedules. Ordination, for example, under Church Government and again under the several denominations. Shall I use it as a main subhead and subdivide by denomination, or shall I use Ordination as a subtopic under the denomination as we use liturgy and ritual? Shall I say Ordination, Church of England, or Church of England, Ordination?

And let me say in passing, that instead of making this kind of decision there is a dangerous tendency, due to the cheapness of L.C. cards, to duplicate cards under several headings. Just drop a card under Church of England and another under Ordination, and let it go. That does no great harm if your collection is small, but in a large catalog it leads to both congestion and confusion. It is bad policy to use two headings where one, with a subtopic, can be made to cover.

I have two unusual advantages; one, a comprehensive collection in a limited field, the other, the fact that I am reclassing at the same time I assign the subject headings. This means that I have in hand all the literature written on my subject as I go along, and, for authority for subject headings, you can't get back of this literature itself. I note how the authors use terms and follow them in my decisions between forms. I have been sceptical of encyclopedia headings as guides ever since a conversation I had with an editor of one. "Oh, yes," he said, "you may engage an article on asses, but if the author doesn't turn it in until after the A volume is printed it has to go under donkeys, and if it's too late for that it gets set up under mules."

It is a little difficult to reduce my processes to words. I analyze the subject matter and get soaked in the literature. The choice of terms, definitions of their scope, and the cross references are all made at the same time. They just seem to settle themselves. But I do know that I want the same structural consistency for my dictionary catalog that I would want if I were making a classed catalog. This structural framework is not apparent in the dictionary catalog, but, like buttresses sometimes built into cathedral walls and entirely concealed even if not visible, it seems to me fundamentally necessary.

The dictionary catalog is much more than a direct index to the shelves. It is a systematic record, or an abstract, if you please, of the shelves. It differs from the classed catalog only in the use of the alphabetical medium.

In the classed catalog the logical relations are all spread out before you. The alphabetical medium does not admit of this graphic representation. We can work out church law, for instance, with all the logic of a syllabus, but we do not retain the collection of terms in mind when they are scattered through the catalog. The total picture is lost.

It is both because this picture is lost and also because words and phrases have connotations which give them an independent value of their own that we have a striking difference between the classed and the dictionary catalog. The classed catalog is an aristocracy with a hierarchy of ranks from the highest general to the specific. The dictionary catalog is a true democracy. All the headings are on a level and we treat them as coordinates. We "see" and we "see also" to the headings above and below with exactly the same deference and exactly the same formula.

There is one seeming exception to this in the rule: Make references from the general to the specific, never backwards. These downward references, however, are a device for expressing the systematic structure of the dictionary catalog. They may be made in logical steps, or collected under the larger general headings. I find the L.C. way of collecting them under large general heads very convenient for running down obscure or queer topics.

The last half of the rule has no reason for existence. Backward references are often most necessary.

I think it safe to state this as an axiom: References from general topics to specific topics give the general framework of the catalog. With this exception, all topics should be considered as coordinate and any useful references made.

In establishing headings, the main problem is the difference in the psychological value of terms. Not all perfectly definite subject groups have good alphabetical names. In church history, for instance, there are just two period groups which stand out from all others as good subject headings, the Apostolic age, then later the Reformation. The books on the other centuries divide off just as distinctly into well-defined periods but we just say, the church in the first three centuries, or the church in the Middle Ages.

A little bunch on the relations of the early Christians to the Roman State is a subject group I have just been dealing with that I found hard to fit with a dictionary heading. The early Christians were persecuted not because of their religious convictions, but because, like pacifists, they could not conform to the laws of the empire. I finally disposed of this group under a very awkward subhead: Church History. Early Period. Relations with the Roman State.

A definite topical group like this I subordinate in some way to the larger group which

contains it, as a general rule.

Sometimes it is the other way round. A perfectly good alphabetical term cannot be compressed into a good subject group. Bolshevism is such a term. Everybody knows what that means, but the meanings never agree. Shall we use it? I should say, in general, that a term which does not lend itself to a commonly accepted definition should be avoided. But sometimes a loose term like Bolshevism can usefully be retained, for the titles collected under it picture the psychology of the period during which it was current. Title cards and partial titles often serve better than subject cards for such loose terms. I frequently collect material tentatively in this way before deciding upon a subject heading.

We are fond of saying rather emphatically that the essence of the dictionary catalog lies in the entries under the specific topics. But that means, of course, to go back to psychology, the specific topic which has a fine alphabetical name. As I have just said, there are many beautifully specific topics unprovided with names, and, without a name of some kind how can a topic get into a dictionary catalog at all? Rufus Jones' book, *The Remnant,* illustrates this point. It is a historical treatise on the function of protecting individuals and parties to society. If the cataloger cannot find a good subject heading for such a specific topic as this, the reader will certainly not search for it under a subject, and please(!) do not drop it in some very general group like Sociology, or History, or Religion.

Here is a difference between the dictionary catalog and the classification. You *must* locate the book somewhere, but if a topic hasn't a good name and cannot be fitted under a larger group, it doesn't necessarily have to get into the catalog at all.

This brings us to another class of headings which are the despair of the cataloger, headings for current developments in the arts and sciences which are still in an experimental stage. The newspapers largely sponsor these names, and they are as unstable as companionate marriages. Horseless carriages, then motor cars, and now automobiles. Yesterday we talked about mental hygiene, now, if we are up to date, we go in for psychiatry and psychiatrists. In the nature of things this sort of literature in the process of evolving has to bother us until it finally gets somewhere. I know of nothing but the trial and error method for this and if it is an error either change the headings or put up with it.

Even with the strictest possible application of the law, "Enter under most specific topic," a dictionary catalog is, in large part, a classed catalog. We subdivide topics under period divisions, under country divisions and under numberless topical subdivisions. Just look at the L.C. pamphlet on Subject subdivisions. Eighty-three pages of them! Here, for example, is a chance L.C. card: Lower Silurian System of eastern Montgomery County, New York. A very specific topic. What does it go under? Here are two perfectly good alphabeting terms. Silurian System and Montgomery County. Does it go under either? No, the L.C. headings are: Geology, Stratification, Ordovician; and Geology, New York State: building up a straight classed drawer under geology, a large general heading. What *is* a dictionary catalog? How specific is a specific heading? I suggest this question for a chapter in the new book on subject headings. For a book on Virginia warblers, is it B for Birds, W for Warblers, or V for Virginia Warblers?

There is much need for guidance here. I think there must be different standards for different types of libraries. Special libraries need much more specific headings than general collections, large libraries more than small ones, magazine indexes more than book indexes.

Personally I tend to expand the classed principle of the dictionary catalog even at the sacrifice of some good filing terms. Often, if a subtopic is completely contained within a larger topic, and an essential part of it, and is not too heavily loaded with a good filing name, I subordinate it to the main group. The Lord's Supper is a partly classed drawer made on this principle. Communion cups, communion bread, communion wine are essential parts to its celebration everywhere. I use them as subheads. Incidentally they alphabet nicely after the subtopic Administration. Communion bread is also known as host. Many legends have grown up around the host. Churches and cities possess miracle-working hosts. A miraculous host is no essential part of communion service and I eject this topic, and put it under its own caption. How about mass? Should the Catholic works on the Mass be included? They are a distinct class by themselves, and many of the practices of the Mass do not seem essential to all communions who observe the Lord's Supper. Besides mass is a term heavily charged with psychological associations. It seems better to run this as a parallel topic. Not so transsubstantiation. All of the doctrinal treatises discuss this in some form or other and I could not separate the books entitled transsubstantiation from others not so entitled. I have made the reference here backwards. Transsubstantiation. *See* Lord's Supper. Doctrinal Treatises. We have a long file and by arranging the cards chronologically the important controversies are brought together. You will say that I am making an alphabetical

classed catalog. I grant that it is *more* classed than some. But I doubt if a *pure* dictionary catalog exists, and if it did would we want it?

It is great fun to experiment in this alphabetical medium. There are many idiosyncrasies in words. Singulars file miles apart from plurals, adjectives from nouns. If I use Mass, what am I going to do with Masses for the Dead? Masses is six inches away from Mass and in another drawer. Well, just to keep this topic near Mass I made my heading: Mass for the Dead. But *one* mass for the dead is very meager.

Sometimes headings come out as slick as a game of solitaire and all unexpectedly we find beautiful alphabetical sequences. But in this paper I am only suggesting chapter headings, not writing the chapters.

Every well worked out paper should have a nice summary. But I can't make one. I haven't got to the end yet. I'm just in the process of making my headings and I don't know what the end will be.

Paper read at the meeting of Religious Books Round-Table, A. I. A. Conference, Washington, D. C., May 17, 1929.

Recent Developments in Correspondence Study

By Marion Horton

Supervising Instructor, Home Study Courses in Library Service, Columbia University

LIKE other phases of adult education, correspondence study has been subjected recently to searching flashlights and to detailed microscopic analysis. The flashlights focused by interested observers have revealed courses on scores of different topics conducted by educational institutions and by commercial organizations. The glittering promises of some advertisements arouse skepticism, but instructors and students who have completed work offered by reputable institutions agree that correspondence study can measure up to university standards.

Dr. Arthur J. Klein in a bulletin published by the United States Bureau of Education (1920, No. 20) stated: "The essential characteristic of correspondence study is not the fact that it is instruction by mail; that is in many cases merely incidental. The correspondence method has been tried in resident instruction with results which indicate that the ordinary methods of class instruction may in some degree be displaced profitably by further application of the correspondence method. Indeed, the correspondence method has always been used in resident instruction in certain subjects, and in many cases no other method is possible. English composition, for instance, cannot be taught in any other way than by correspondence-study methods. It is not, then, the intervention of the postal system which gives to correspondence study its virtue. The method of instruction is the essential thing. It may or may not be applied through the mails. The chief characteristics of the method are constant efforts by the student and correction by the teacher. As ordinarily applied in correspondence study, the method consists of the assignment by the instructor of definitely planned work, the writing out by the student of the results of this work, the correction and criticism by the instructor of the written lessons, and the suggestion and assistance upon points where the student needs such help. The student is tested upon the whole of every lesson. He not only recites the entire lesson, but reduces it to writing, so that any error may be detected and corrected. The criticism by the instructor is also clearly and definitely written. No slipshod or evasive work, no bluffing is possible for student or instructor. The hard grind which such methods require from students is such an ever-present fact, so much a part of correspondence study, and so seldom found in class work, that this method of working is more truly than postal transmission the essential feature of correspondence study."

A detailed and scientific investigation into the efficiency of correspondence courses has been made by Dr. Robert Edward Crump of Teachers College of Columbia University and published by the Southeastern State Teachers College, Durant, Okla., in 1928. He finds that correspondence courses may be as effective as courses studied in residence, since learning depends more on the student and on the teacher, absent or present, than on the classroom or lack of one. His investigations tested two groups of persons, studying Psychology, English and Spanish, by correspondence and in residence. The groups chosen were of approximately equal intelligence; they were taught by the same teachers and used the same texts. The experiment showed that there is about as much variation between two resident classes meeting at different hours of the day or different terms of the year as there is between a resident class and a correspondence

class. In one psychology class, the correspondence group was five points superior to the school group, while another comparison showed the resident students 2.4 points in the lead.

"This variation is probably explainable on the basis of the relative size of the classes, the relative maturity of the students and, above all, on the attitude of the students toward the work and the amount expended," Dr. Crump finds. "Granting that our tests have actually measured the achievements of the various classes and that any variables that have not been discounted or eliminated are only such as are typical of similar cases, we may conclude that the evidence on hand justifies us in placing correspondence and class instruction on a basis of equality."

Dr. Crump's study was made because most statements in regard to the value of correspondence work were based upon personal bias or opinion, and not upon scientific comparison of the results of methods of teaching. No complete analysis has been made of the various methods of teaching in library schools, but the increasing number of library schools and correspondence courses offer interesting opportunities for research.

A committee report to the Association of American Library Schools in 1923 indicated that a majority of the schools belonging to the association considered study by correspondence possible, but at that time no school had a budget adequate to provide for such courses and few instructors were prepared to experiment in the technique of teaching by new methods.

In 1923 the Gaylord Company gallantly launched the American Correspondence School of Librarianship, offering courses in book selection, cataloging, reference, library service to children, school library administration, special libraries and the library profession. Over 350 persons registered for these courses, and a majority of the students completed the work assigned. Some reported promotions as a result of the courses; others found that their greater knowledge of books and of technical processes was a professional asset. Many of the students stated that their ability was increased, and that they were able to give more effective library service. The library profession owes a real debt to the Gaylord Company, which sacrificed financial profit in proving that the methods successful in teaching other subjects could be applied to library school subjects.

The courses given by the American Correspondence School of Librarianship were transferred to Columbia University in 1928, to be conducted under the joint supervision of the Home Study Department and the School of Library Service. The students who had registered and had not completed their courses finished their work as far as possible under the same instructors. The courses have been revised and brought up-to-date; new subjects have been added and new students enrolled.

At the present time courses in cataloging, classification, book selection, reference, library records, library handwriting, school library administration, indexing, library service to children and children's literature are ready, and courses in American government publications, business libraries and public library administration are in preparation. This has involved study of the technique of teaching by correspondence and the making of syllabi and directions for study of the texts provided. In some cases the directions for study are practically new textbooks on the different subjects. A glance at the material assembled and the problems planned for the students removes any conception of correspondence as an easy, primrose-lined path or a short cut to professional success. Such instruction does not lower the standards of the profession, since it provides analysis of technical methods or specialized graduate study in certain fields.

All of the students registered at present are employed in libraries. Some are librarians or assistants in public libraries; others are school librarians who have had a general library school course but no special training in school library work. The tuition fee of one children's librarian was paid by the library board in order that she might have the benefit of new ideas and broader experience. Since these students are working for what can be learned and not for point credit, their study is thorough and enthusiastic. Each student receives the individual criticism of the instructor on each lesson, and it is possible, therefore, to adapt the assignments to the special problems which the students must meet. Lessons are submitted at regular intervals, but students report more time spent in study of each assignment than is possible during study in residence when several courses clamor for attention. The number of inquiries about the correspondence courses suggests that librarians are interested in reading and in directed study with a purpose, and that the purpose—increased efficiency—in many cases has been achieved.

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Who Shall Decide What We Can't Read?

Librarians Are Urged to Write Their Congressmen and Senators in the Interest of Liberty of Purchase

Carl L. Cannon

Chairman, A. L. A. Book Buying Committee

LIBRARIANS can scarcely afford to be indifferent to the provision in the tariff bill now before Congress which proposes a censorship of books, pamphlets and periodicals. It strikes at a principle which was decided when the Constitution was drafted and which has been mantained by the National Government up to the present time. In effect the bill (section 305 of H. R. 2667) proposes that clerks of the Customs Bureau shall decide whether any book, pamphlet or other writing imported into the United States is obscene or seditious. He is penalized if he admits an objectionable writing in the sum of $5,000 and a penitentiary sentence. If, however, he excludes a book which is later decided in court to be proper, there is no penalty whatever. Faced with this alternative, there is little doubt that a decision which might cost the clerk $5,000 would, in doubtful cases, be for exclusion.

The section was passed by the House and debated in the Senate on October 10-11. Librarians who wish to read the debate in full (and I assure you it is highly amusing as well as important) can no doubt obtain a copy from their senator.* It was also, of course, printed in the *Congressional Record* of the same date. As a result of the debate an amendment was adopted eliminating the censorship of books but continuing that on pictures, prints, etc., and dropping the general terms treason and insurrection from the clause excluding seditious material. The amendment removes the most serious objections to the original measure by eliminating books and other printed matter from the provisions of the act, but Senator Smoot, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, which has the bill in charge, has served notice that later he may again wish to present the bill in its original form. It is for this reason that librarians should use their influence in opposing the reinstatement of the objectionable language. The Book Buying Committee of the A. L. A. asks that every librarian write to his Senator and Representative before December 20 opposing the bill as first presented.

Those who have studied the history of censorship know to what absurd inconsistencies and confusion the present departmental rulings, State laws and judicial decisions have led.

It was pointed out in the Senate debate that the customs laws and postal regulations are at such variance that a copy of Ovid's *Metamorphoses* sent to a professor of Johns Hopkins University was stopped in the mails. The works of Tolstoi and Swedenborg, which can be purchased at any bookstore and can be read in any library, were barred from the mails. Senator Cutting of New Mexico, in looking up the "black list" (consisting of titles of books barred from both customs and mails), discovered that of the 739 volumes on the list more than half are in the Spanish language. Of the remaining titles more than two-thirds are in French, five are in Italian, ten in German and 114 in English. The Senator deprecated the idea that the Spanish and French languages deserved this preeminence and then proceeded to give some of the reasons why appearances were deceptive. *Mademoiselle de Maupin*, by Gautier, is allowed by the censors to enter the country in French. It is permitted in English translation, but after it has been translated into Spanish it is barred. And there are similar examples.

Speaking in relation to the censorship of portions of *All Quiet on the Western Front*, Senator Tydings complained that such exclusion tended to put us in the kindergarten class, an opinion in which Senator Copeland agreed. Referring again to the "black list," it was pointed out that classics of the Greek and Roman writers, which had survived for 2000 years or more and been handed on from one generation to another of school children, were largely barred by customs regulations. Included in this list is Aristophanes' *Lysistrata*, an argument on the futility and brutality of warfare.

Quoting from the departmental regulations on which customs clerks are presumed to act in deciding what is proper to be admitted, the Senator read "a 'classic' should be defined and distinction should be recognized as between the *Bible* and the bona-fide literary classics (such as Shakespeare, Chaucer, Pope, Swift and many others), on the one hand, wherein the obscene passages are incidental to the voluminous text of the superb literature, and the alleged 'classics' cleverly conceived in an an-

*Copies may be had from the office of the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

cient medieval atmosphere, wherein obscenity is the motif."

The Senator objected to such a ruling on the ground that it made the language in which the work was written a point at issue, and wondered how one was to put Swift on one side and Rabelais on the other.

If it were true, he contended, that one person in the Bureau of Customs read all these works, and if a person were injured by reading immoral books, then this clerk ought to be the most wicked man on the face of the earth. He had the dangerous task, said the Senator, of deciding whether certain books ought to circulate among people less intelligent or less enlightened than himself. In the course of the debate, comparison was made with decisions concerning obscenity in the English Parliament, where the bill was declared to affect only "works of a nature calculated to shock the common feelings of decency in any well regulated mind and thus allowed the intelligent to receive literature which possibly might be injurious to some particular individual." The test of obscenity is this, whether the tendency of the matter charged as obscenity is to deprave and corrupt those whose minds are open to such immoral influences.

It is this later test that has been applied in our own courts, and in the opinion of Senator Cutting, "brings the people of the country down to the level of the lowest or most immature members of the community." He said many believe that such people can be guarded by their own families or by local laws, and quoted the decision of the French court in the case of Flaubert's novel *Madame Bovary*, which was that, although certain passages might offend decency, "these reprehensible passages are few in number when compared with the extent of the whole work. The book does not appear, like some, to have been written for the sole purpose of satisfying sexual desires and the spirit of license and debauch."

Decisions which put all people in one class, said the speaker, result in "many important serious, solemn decisions of medical questions, such as the works of Havelock Ellis and Krafft Ebbing being barred by the Bureau of Customs. No exceptions are made in behalf of members of the medical profession or scientists."

The right of appeal from the decisions of the customs clerks were then touched upon. It was brought out that, according to the law an appeal, in cases of forfeitures, could be made to the Customs Court of Appeals, but that no appeal could be taken to a district court. The history of censored cases showed, they pointed out, that 70 to 80 cases out of 100 were never taken to the Court of Appeals because of the expense. Some Senators took the ground that questions of social policy, such as the morality of literature, should be tried before judge and jury. In the one case quoted where an appeal was made, that of *The Well of Loneliness*, the decision of the Customs Bureau in denying the admission of the book was reversed by the Superior Court. Senator Wheeler offered the opinion that if the minds of the people of the United States were so easily corrupted that the admission of classics was sufficient for that purpose, the denial of admission would not save them.

It was pointed out that practically every State now had anti-obscenity laws, and that all violations could be tried in any of them before judge and jury. The effect of placing authority for decisions with customs clerks, it was complained, would take away the right of jury trial in the various States.

Another effect of departmental censorship, it was shown, was confusion between different departments, when, for example, the customs admits a book which the Postal Department bars from the mails and when the Watch and Ward Society of Boston bars the installments of *Scribner's Magazine* containing Hemingway's *Farewell to Arms*, but does not prosecute the published book; or when the Mayor of Boston prohibits the presentation of O'Neill's *Strange Interlude*, but no authority prevents the sale of the book in the book stores.

Senator Cutting quoted Benjamin Franklin's remark on censorship: "Abuse of freedom of speech ought to be repressed; but to whom dare we commit the care of doing it?"

The debate was equally spirited on the question of sedition and insurrection. As first presented the bill interdicted the admission of "any book, pamphlet . . . containing any matter advocating or urging treason, insurrection or forcible resistance to any law of the United States; or containing any threat to take the life of or inflict bodily harm upon any person in the United States. . . ."

Much the same argument was made against this provision as those against censorship of books.

"To whom dare we commit the care of censorship?"

The failure of the law relating to conspiracy and treason during the recent war was pointed out. How much more so, it was argued, would such a statute fail in time of peace. Senator Wheeler said that during the war "we went so far as to say that anybody that threatened the life of the President of the United States should be punished as a felon under the sedition act. Now in time of peace . . . we say that we not only should prohibit anybody from threatening to take the life of the President

. . . but should prohibit anybody threatening to take the life of any member of Congress or any other citizen of the United States.

"The language is, 'advocating or urging treason, insurrection or forcible resistance.' Just think of the latitude that would give to one of these petty officials to determine what is a book or other writing advocating treason. All we have to do is to go back to the Adams sedition law." During the Wilson administration, it was shown, attorneys and courts in various parts of the United States held utterly different opinions on the construction of the act.

The remarks of Prof. Zechariah Chafee, Jr., of the Harvard Law School were read into the record. Professor Chafee opposed the act on the following grounds:

1. The clause appears to include any general advocacy of revolution as a means of social change. It is not limited to books and pamphlets which specifically refer to revolution in the United States.
2. The clause creates an effective censorship over foreign literature in the discussion of philosophical anarchy, the application of force as a political expedient and all revolutions.
3. Many of the classics of modern economics will be put in this new index expurgatorius. This law will prevent a loyal citizen from obtaining from abroad the works of Marx, Proudhon, Bakunin or Stirner. Bertrand Russell's *Proposed Roads to Freedom* would be forbidden because of its extracts from the Communist Manifesto of 1848 and from anarchist songs.
4. The proposed law would prevent large reference libraries from importing material for the study of the Russian Revolution and its present form of government.
5. The law will not merely prevent the importation of important books printed abroad, but it will also indirectly stop the printing of such books by our own publishers.
6. The law is a kindergarten measure, which assumes that the American people are so stupid and so untrustworthy that it is unsafe to led them read anything about revolutions, because they would immediately become converted.

Other Senators suggested that the English edition of the works of Thomas Jefferson could be excluded, as well as the Declaration of Independence. The question was asked, how could the following quotation from Abraham Lincoln's first inaugural be admitted?

> "This country with its institutions belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of existing government, they can exercise their constitutional right of amending it, or their revolutionary right to dismember or overthrow it."

As a result of the debate, Senator Cutting's amendment as mentioned in the early part of this paper was adopted, but it was carried only by the narrow majority of 38 to 36. The vote was not strictly along party lines. The future danger is that the original bill may be reinstated and pushed through as a party measure.

The Executive Board of the American Library Association has voted in favor of the following resolution of the Book Buying Committee. The American Library Association Committee on State and Federal Elections has likewise approved it. Similar resolutions have been passed by a number of State Library Associations, including those of New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island.

"Resolved that the Book Buying Committee of the American Library Association firmly oppose the language of section 305 of the H. R. 2667, prohibiting the importation of printed matter, advocating or urging treason, insurrection or forcible resistance to any law of the United States . . . or any obscene book, pamphlet, paper, etc., on the grounds that this clause creates an effective censorship over foreign literature; will ban many of the classics on modern economics; will keep out material relating to revolutions in foreign countries; will indirectly stop the reprinting of such books by our own publishers, and is a reflection upon the intelligence of the American people by implying that they are so stupid and so untrustworthy that they cannot read about revolutions without becoming traitors and revolutionaries themselves; and because the decision of questions of social policy is withdrawn from the ordinary course and placed in the hands of officials primarily chosen for their special qualifications in dealing with the administrative details of tariff laws."

Librarians are urged to write their Congressman and Senator today in the interest of liberty of speech and thought.

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Librarian Authors

William Watts Folwell of Minnesota

ONE SEPTEMBER DAY in 1869 a black-bearded young man and his wife, "each," as he used to tell it later, "loaded with a bundle and a baby" walked up the plank sidewalk that led from the steamboat landing through the straggling frontier village of St. Anthony, Minn. They were accompanied by a small daughter and "Aunt Adelaide," both of them likewise laden with bundles. The man was William Watts Folwell, Lieutenant-Colonel of U. S. Engineers, ex-professor of mathematics and civil engineering at Kenyon College and the newly-elected President of the University of Minnesota. This youthful institution, although nominally founded in 1851, was just about to admit its first freshman class of collegiate grade.

Within a few days after the university opened, a quarrel arose between the volunteer librarian, Professor Beardsley, and a young man named Campbell, who had, unknown to President Folwell, been appointed librarian by one of the Regents. The immediate conflict was ended by the retirement of Campbell, but the next year President Folwell, probably influenced by the dispute, added the title of the librarian to that of president and retained it until his final retirement from the active service of the University in 1907.

He was essentially a librarian of the old school. His interests were wide. He graduated from a classical course at Hobart in 1857; studied comparative philology in Germany in 1860-61; commanded a battalion of engineers in the Civil War; taught civil engineering at Kenyon, and when he retired from the presidency of the University of Minnesota he became professor of political science. He was president of the American Economic Association in 1892. In 1908 he published a book entitled *Minnesota, The North Star State* (Houghton Mifflin), and only a few weeks before his death he completed the final volume of his four-volume *History of Minnesota*. Among the manuscripts he sent to the University Library a few months ago is an unpublished original translation of the Gospel of John.

As librarian, his interest was more in books and their users than in methods of administration. To him a library was a collection of books for the use of its community—not a museum, a pleasure resort or a drill hall for technical administration. As long as the library public was receiving fair service he concerned himself little with detailed conduct of the library staff. During the construction of the present library building at Minnesota, he was shown some of the modern equipment that was planned for it. He remarked, "I am glad to see it but, after all, it isn't the furniture that counts. When I was in the army I learned that I could write as good a report on the bottom of a hard-tack box as in an office on an oak or mahogany desk." This does not mean that he had no interest in efficiency. A makeshift bookcase of packing cases in his office led his old friend Wernicke to evolve the sectional bookcase. He designed a stack with wooden trays which was quite the equal of any of the older stack shelving. He originated and used a "sheaf catalog," as ingenious as any used by our English confrères. With two of his associates he compiled a printed catalog, on the model of that of the Boston Public Library. It was a matter of emphasis, for to him administration was a means, not an end.

Until about a year ago, he came regularly to his office in the library building. He took delight in the free range of the stacks and was keenly interested in the growth of the library collections and its service. His suggestions for additions to the library were frequent and always well-considered.

On the morning of September 18, 1929, he was sitting in his chair reading the morning paper when death came to him swiftly and mercifully at the age of ninety-six years and seven months.

We all have heard of "the librarian of the old school." To some of us the phrase smacks of kindly or condescending tolerance. To those of us who have been privileged to know in Dr. Folwell one of the best types—a gentleman of unfailing courtesy, loving both men and books and as open-minded to past progress as he was interested in the past—the phrase carries with it rather the idea of a pattern to be followed and an example in whose passing we lose much.

Biography by Frank K. Walter.

This is the sixth in a series of sketches of librarian-authors which has included Frances Newman, Louis Felix Ranlett, Effie L. Power, John Clement Fitzpatrick and Edna Whiteman.

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December 15, 1929

Editorial Forum

THE CHIEF event of 1929 was the organization at Rome of the International Federation of Library Associations, of which Doctor Sevensma, Librarian of the League of Nations, was later happily appointed Secretary. The gathering, June 15-19, brought together fourteen hundred participants from thirty-two countries, who were received by the Pope, the King and the Duce, and enjoyed Italian hospitality and exhibitions all the way from Naples to Venice, where the Congress concluded with a final meeting, June 30, which adopted resolutions outlining farseeing plans for the future. This meeting stimulated work at the Vatican Library, and the aftermath included a meeting at Geneva of the committee on the League of Nations Library building, for which plans were adopted and placed in the hands of Architect Vago of Hungary, selected for the work. Notable also was the Ibero-American cultural exposition opened at Seville in March, with representation from the United States as well as from the Latin American countries. Another international meeting, the conference on adult education, was held at the University of Cambridge, August 22-29, at which also American librarians were represented. An important international event was the report of Milton J. Ferguson of California and S. A. Pitt of Glasgow of their investigation on library conditions in South Africa, which was set on foot by the Carnegie Corporation under Mr. Carnegie's special bequest in behalf of the British dominions and resulted in liberal appropriations by the Corporation for library development in that part of the world.

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THE A. L. A. Conference, held at Washington May 13-18, brought together a banner attendance of nearly three thousand, at which meeting the Business Libraries Section of the A. L. A. was put into definite shape. The Association moved to its new headquarters in the McGraw-Hill Building in Chicago, and Andrew Keogh, Yale's librarian, was elected its president at the Washington Conference. The Special Libraries Association held a largely attended conference simultaneously with the A. L. A., and meetings were also held by the other national organizations, including the American Library Institute, which held also an autumn meeting at Stockbridge. Regional and state meetings the country over were of proportions far exceeding in numbers the national conferences not many years back, that at Lake Placid bringing together more than four hundred persons.

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THE WASHINGTON Conference, where honor was paid to Herbert Putnam on the completion of his thirty years of great service as the nation's librarian, was preceded, April 5, by a special gathering in his honor on the day marking the anniversary of his commencement of service in 1899, at which a remarkable memorial volume, edited by W. W. Bishop and Andrew Keogh, was presented to him by representative librarians in the presence of a distinguished company, including Senators and Representatives. He was also worthily honored by the presentation of the Roosevelt gold medal for distinguished service on October 27. Linda A. Eastman, the retiring president of the A. L. A., was also made the recipient of special honors, on the sixtieth anniversary of the Cleveland Public Library, from the city which she has so effectively served as its municipal librarian, including the presentation of Cleveland's city medal for public service, and by a dinner scheduled for the present week at which the trustees and staff of the library will unveil the portrait painted in her honor. Wilberforce Eames reaped deserved reward in the award to him, as the only American thus honored, of the gold medal of the Bibliographical Society of England in connection with like awards to four distinguished English bibliographers, and C. C. Williamson also received foreign honor in his designation as *chevalier* of the Legion of Honor in recognition of his services in behalf of the printed catalog of the Bibliothèque Nationale. Anne Wallace Howland was made by the University of Georgia Doctor of Library Science (Sc.D. in L.S.), perhaps the first honor of this kind conferred on a woman, and Halsey W. Wilson was honored by the Pennsylvania Library Association with its gold medal, the first awarded. Other notable personal events were the retirement of Alice S. Tyler, past president of the A. L. A., as the head of Western Reserve University School of Library Science, and the selection of Herbert S. Hirshberg as dean to succeed her, and the resignation of Willis K. Stetson after forty-two years' service in the New Haven Free Public Library, to be succeeded by Lindsey Brown

of the Silas Bronson Library, Waterbury, Conn. Brown University changes its personnel in view of the coming retirement of Harry L. Koopman, this year president of the American Library Institute, who will become librarian emeritus next year, to be succeeded by Henry B. Van Hoesen, leaving Princeton University to become meanwhile Brown's assistant librarian in the post vacated by F. K. W. Drury, who resigned to become Executive Assistant in Charge of Adult Education at A. L. A. Headquarters. Adeline B. Zachert, after varied service in library work, enters a new line of service as field secretary for the World Peace Foundation of Boston.

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THE DEATH of John Cotton Dana brought to the front Beatrice Winser, promptly designated by the trustees as his natural successor. Death was busy indeed in library ranks during the year. The passing of John Cotton Dana after twenty-seven years' headship of the Newark Public Library and earlier service at Denver and Springfield, Mass., became the occasion of remarkable tributes to him, throughout the American press and of appreciation of the library profession as exemplified in his career. The death of Henry J. Carr took from us one of the pioneers of the A. L. A. who had served in most relations, up to the presidency, and called forth especial sympathy for the helpmeet who shared with him almost lifelong interest in the service for the A. L. A. A third past president of the A. L. A. was lost to us in Thomas L. Montgomery, for so long state librarian of Pennsylvania and always a striking social figure in library circles. Pennsylvania lost another of its librarians in John H. Leete of Pittsburgh, who died at Ann Arbor after a sad, lingering illness. Canada suffered a serious loss from its library circles in the death of W. O. Carson, Inspector of Public Libraries for the Province of Ontario, who had done notable service in promoting library development.

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DARTMOUTH College dedicated its very notable new Baker Memorial Library building, which had been under construction for two years, at an expenditure exceeding a million dollars. Boston College, on its thirty-eight acre campus, just outside of Boston, made the dedication of its new library edifice, the fourth of twenty buildings projected, a feature of its commencement week. The University of North Carolina also opened its new building with an address by Andrew Keogh as president of the A. L. A. Ann Arbor, a notable site for college libraries, had its library facilities still further increased in the remodeling and completion of the Library of Alma College.

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IN BIBLIOGRAPHY and library literature the list year by year grows too long for detailed mention. An exceptional venture, spoken of by John Dewey in his preface as a monumental work, was the volume on *The Organization of Knowledge*, by Henry E. Bliss, assistant librarian of the College of the City of New York, which is to be completed by a second volume more specifically on library classification. Miss Mudge's new *Guide to Reference Books*, the fifth revision, will be welcomed throughout the library profession as one of the most important of all library helps. Charles Evans, veteran bibliographer and a pioneer of 1876, added the tenth volume to his lifelong work, *American Bibliography*, and another volume of Sabin's *Dictionary of Books Relating to America* was issued, still dealing with the prolific bibliographical family of Smith. A much extended issue of the *Bookman's Manual* was also added to the list. The work at the Vatican Library, at the Bibliothèque Nationale and that projected at the British Museum give great promise for the future.

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THE mid-winter meetings at Chicago in the coming holiday season promise in their program to make one of the most notable library occasions possible, rivaling the A. L. A. conference itself and in some respects of even more importance. The Council will discuss the code of library ethics submitted by the committee of which Josephine A. Rathbone is chairman, and has also on its docket the consideration of the development of federal relations with libraries, the statutes of the International Federation of Library Associations and a hospital library project for future development in that field. Incidentally it may be said that the plan for a separate Department of Education with a Cabinet Secretary, in which librarians have been much interested, has suffered a setback through the opposition of Secretary Wilbur of the Interior Department, whose experience as president of Leland Stanford University of course entitles his opinion to great weight. Most of the important boards and committees will also have sessions at Chicago. An interesting feature of the meeting of the Bibliographical Society of America will be reminiscences by W. N. C. Carlton of Williams College of "George D. Smith As I Knew Him," picturing that interesting personality in the field of important book dealing with whom Mr. Carlton was for some time associated

Book Selection on Foreign Countries

What Other Nations Regard as the Best Books in English About Their Countries

England

Ward, A. W., and G. P. Gooch, eds. *Cambridge History of British Foreign Policy* (1793-1919). 3 vol. Macmillan. 1923. v. 1, $6; v. 2 and 3, $7.50 each.

Cramb, J. A. *The Origins and Destiny of Imperial Britain and Nineteenth Century Europe.* Dutton. 1915. $1.50.

Dawson, W. H. *Richard Cobden and Foreign Policy.* Frank-Maurice. 1927. $5.

Marvin, F. S., ed. *England and the World.* Oxford. 1925. $3.50.

Toynbee, A. J. *Conduct of British Empire Foreign Relations Since the Peace Settlement.* Oxford. 1928. $3.

Zimmern, A. E. *Nationality and Other Essays.* McBride. 1919. $3.

Marvin, F. S., ed. *Western Races and the World.* Oxford. 1922. $4.20.

Gooch, G. P. *Recent Revelations of European Diplomacy.* Longmans. 1927. $3.

Mowat, R. B. *History of European Diplomacy,* 1914-1925. Longmans. 1927. $6.25.

Stawell, F. M., and Marvin, F. S. *Making of the Western Mind.* Doran. 1923. $3.50.

Bryce, J. B. *International Relations.* Macmillan. 1922. $2.50.

Waller, B. C. *Paths to World Peace.* Allen & Unwin. 1926. 5s.

Burns, C. D. *Short History of International Intercourse.* Oxford. 1924. $1.75.

Dalton, H. *Towards the Peace of Nations, a Study in International Politics.* Routledge. 1928. 5s.

Dickinson, G. L. *International Anarchy,* 1904-1914. Century. 1926. $4.

Johnston, G. A. *International Social Progress.* Macmillan. 1924. $3.50.

Marvin, F. S., ed. *Evolution of World-Peace.* Oxford. 1921. $3.20.

Murray, Gilbert. *The Ordeal of This Generation.* Harper. 1929. $3.

Partridge, G. *Psychology of Nations.* Macmillan. 1919. $2.50.

Madariaga, S. de. *Disarmament.* Coward-McCann. 1929. $5.

Dickinson, G. L. *War, Its Nature, Cause and Cure.* Macmillan. 1923. $1.50.

Burns, C. D. 1918-1928: *A Short History of the World.* Payson & Clarke. 1928. $3.50.

Brailsford, H. N. *Olives of Endless Age.* Harper. 1928. $3.50.

Prepared by Mr. Hagberg Wright of the London Library at the request of the British Library of Information which was suggested by the British Embassy.

Italy

Adults

Crespi, A. *Contemporary Thought of Italy.* Knopf. 1926. $2.50.

Croce, B. *History of Italy,* 1871-1915. Oxford. 1929. $5.

Phelps, R. S. *Italian Silhouettes.* Knopf. 1924. $2.50.

Prezzolini, G. *Fascism.* Dutton. 1927. $2.50.

Schneider, H. W. *Making the Fascist State.* Oxford. 1928. $5.

Solmi, A. *Making of Modern Italy.* Macmillan. 1924. $4.

Stella, A. *Some Aspects of Italian Immigration to the United States.* Putnam. 1924. $2.50.

Thayer, W. R. *Life and Times of Cavour.* 2 vol. Houghton. 1914. $10.

Wilstach, P. *Italian Holiday.* Bobbs. 1928. $4.

Young, S. *The Three Fountains.* Scribner. 1924. $2.

Children from 6 to 12

Amicis, E. de. *Heart; A Schoolboy's Journal.* Crowell. 1922. $2.50.

Capuana, L. *Italian Fairy Tales,* tr. by Demmrick. Dutton. 1929. $2.50.

Lorenzini, Carlo. *Pinocchio.* Crowell. 1924. $1.50.

Children from 12 to 16

Capuana, L. *Nimble Legs.* Longmans. 1927. $1.50.

Merezhkowskii, D. S. *The Romance of Leonardi Da Vinci.* Putnam. 1924. $3.50.

Courtesy of Mr. Lauro de Bosis in the absence of Dr. Henry Burchell of the Casa Italiana to whom the Italian Embassy referred this inquiry.

Vacation Reading for Children

San Francisco, California

ALL public libraries, large and small, usually suffer a decrease in circulation during the summer months. Especially is this true in the Children's Departments, for the boy and girl patrons leaving on vacations and for summer camps forget temporarily the value of the printed page. Others left in the cities and towns fill their days aimlessly playing. Only a small percentage of these juvenile patrons are away during the entire school vacation, and the others tiring of their play soon drift back to the library reading rooms. There they will spend a large part of the day reading whatever book strikes their fancy, and when hunger or mother's admonition calls them home, they will depart with several non-fiction books of the most trivial character. All the non-fiction books they were obliged to draw out to supplement their text books during the school term, and the classics suggested on their book report reading lists now stand idly on the library shelves. The up-to-date and serious-minded children's librarian instead of reveling in the quiet that such a rest period would afford, now realizes that these summer months may be utilized to great advantage for the benefit of the library and the promotion of her better reading campaign. Circulation may be kept up to its winter par, and a more direct and personal contact may be realized with the children. The club idea appeals to all boys and girls, and a successfully instituted reading club will reap many direct benefits to the library. There are many different ways of organizing reading clubs. They may be large or small, may entail a great deal of detail work or very little, depending on the size of the library or the time or energy the librarian cares to devote to them. The following plans have been most successful in the Children's Room of the San Francisco Public Library.

At the beginning of the school vacation period an attractive notice that a Reading Club is in progress is posted near the librarian's desk. All those who care to join sign a pledge card, signifying their intention of working for a full membership. The rules of the Reading Club are posted on a bulletin board, and a graded list of good books on which the members may report. The reports are filled out on a mimeographed form containing such pertinent questions as, "Tell about some interesting part of the story," "Describe one character of the story," so that the librarian knows if the child really has read the book. As the reports are corrected and prove satisfactory, a gold star is placed after the child's name on the bulletin board. Ten gold stars entitle the contestant to a Reading Club button and a diploma, bestowed at the end of vacation with fitting ceremony. The buttons and diplomas may be purchased very reasonably from Gaylord Bros.

Still another method is to give each boy and girl as they enroll a booklet made from heavy manila paper, cut and folded on the paper machine and stapled. Pictures are cut from book jackets, and each member is allowed to choose one to decorate the cover of his "Books I Have Read." On each page the child writes a description of a chosen book and why he liked it. Neatness and artistry are considered when the best ones are selected and put on display. A prize, a gift edition of a well-known classic, may be awarded for the best booklet.

A successful travel reading club has been originated in the Los Angeles Public Library. Passports with the child's picture are given on joining the club. Tickets for passage to the places visited are presented, as the journey commences, and on large maps the progress of the member's route is kept track of. In this way many interesting travel books may be brought to the child's attention.

Indianapolis, Indiana

A TREASURE HUNT has been the scheme of the Indianapolis Public Library Children's Department for summer reading during the last two years. A list of thirty books was selected for special reading during vacation. In the books were many treasures, but the library selected only one from each book for the child to find on his treasure hunt. Printed in each list was a list of the special treasures and clues to the search. After the child read the book he had selected from the list, he wrote the name of the book on the line below the clue, and if he was successful in finding ten treasures his name was placed on the Honor Roll of Treasure Seekers and he received a Vacation Reading Diploma.

This year Indianapolis conducted a Ramble Among Books. Each child followed his own interests in reading. A record of the books chosen by the child was kept at the library in little booklets made for the purpose. The best list of ten books read was published in the newspaper. This gave the library a chance to get books read that have stood on the shelves when the reading has been confined to a list.

Wichita, Kansas

MEMBERS of the Vacation Reading Club, which is conducted by the City Library at Wichita, Kan., read one book a week during the summer and write a brief review of each book read. The reviews are written at the library when the book is returned and the paper (a half sheet of newsprint paper) is furnished by the library. The best of these reviews are printed each week in the Sunday editions of two daily newspapers, and the newspapers are glad to use the children's reviews since they come at a time of year when news is scarce.

The Vacation Reading Club in Wichita is organized along simple lines. There are no prizes, and the only special incentives for membership are membership buttons and printed certificates. Emphasis is placed on quality rather than on quantity. No child is encouraged to read more than one book a week, and much individual attention is given to children in the choice of books for reading.

Albany, New York

AT the Harmanus Bleecker Branch of the Albany Public Library a formal reading list for children is not used and the tedious oral reports of books read are done away with by having short written reports. Last year the books read were recorded in a gay orange notebook published by Gaylord and titled "Books I Have Read." The name, school and age of all children who wished to join the club were taken and each one was given a notebook. As soon as two books had been read and acceptably reviewed in the notebook, the club member was given a small white button which read, "I belong to the Public Library Reading Club." The child's name was also put on a poster bulletin and a star placed opposite for each book read and reviewed in the notebook. These reviews were often checked by a few questions. The notebooks were handed in in September and certificates of good reading were awarded to those who were deserving. Gold stars were placed on the certificates of those whose reading had been most satisfactory. No mention was made of the number of books to be read, but the best books for each individual reader were suggested. Certificates were awarded as readily to children who had read ten good books and reviewed them intelligently as to the child who had read thirty.

Two of the other branches followed a similar plan except that one had reading for club credit from prepared lists that followed the state syllabus, and another had general reading lists of fifteen books each for boys and girls of the fifth through the eighth grades.

At the John H. Howe Library, vacation clubs took the form of a travel club. Tickets were distributed at the schools to all children who wished to join. These were exchanged at the library for itineraries or booklets listing the books for each journey. Eleven different trips were scheduled: To France, Italy, Holland, Ireland, China, Japan, land of the Jews, Indian land, animal land, around the world, or snowland. The last three were intended for small children. A map was given each child as soon as he had read one book, and each step of his journey (meaning each book read) was marked by a gum drop on the map. A journey was completed by reading ten or more books. Booklets were used for notes on the books read. Successful travelers were invited to a picnic given in September.

Allen County, Indiana

LAST year the County Department of the Public Library of Fort Wayne and Allen County conducted a Treasure Hunt for the children living outside of Fort Wayne, based on the Indianapolis plan. An extra provision was made that if a child found twenty treasures he would receive a Gold Star Diploma. The plan met with great success, and 223 children received diplomas at the end of the year, 131 of them being Gold Star Diplomas. This year the County Department has a very attractive list called "The Magic Gate," and in place of clues to hidden treasures the child finds keys to the magic gate. The plan is similar to that of last year and is conducted for the children in Allen County, outside of Fort Wayne. A Vacation Reading Diploma will be awarded to every child finding ten keys, and a Gold Star Diploma awarded to those finding twenty keys.

Albemarle, N. C.

STANLEY COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY, Albemarle, N. C., has just completed a very successful vacation reading course for children. In order to keep a record for the children of their summer reading little "ladders of knowledge" were made with space for recording the reading of seven books. When the first ladder was climbed by a boy or girl, each one received a "library reading club" button, and started climbing on his or her other ladders. Out of the 361 boys and girls who started climbing in June, 250 have reached the top and are wearing library buttons, many having gone on down the back of the ladder.

Library Organizations

Special Libraries Association of Boston

ON Sept. 16, 1929, for the first time in the history of the Special Libraries Association of Boston, the national executive board met with the local organization. This afforded an excellent opportunity for greater understanding and cooperation between the two organizations. The evening meeting was opened by an address of welcome by Mr. Chase of the Boston Public Library, where the meeting was held. Albert H. Rogers, executive director of the Massachusetts Tercentenary Association, vividly portrayed the attractions of Massachusetts as a gathering place for all organizations meeting in 1930. Mr. Alcott stressed the need for a larger membership, especially the $5.00 membership which carries voting in the national organization. Miss Cavanaugh made very clear the necessity for librarians to think in terms of business if they are to understand the business man's problem and so assist in the solving by making readily available pertinent, detailed information. Other speakers for the evening were members of the executive board.

West Virginia Library Association

THE WEST VIRGINIA Library Association held its sixteenth annual meeting in Fairmont Oct. 25-26. This was the largest and most enthusiastic gathering in the history of the Association. Dr. Bostwick of the St. Louis Public Library, who was to have been the speaker at the dinner meeting, was unable to be present on account of illness. His paper, "Taking Stock in the Library Profession," was read before the Association.

Dr. Dorothy Louise Mackay of the History Department, West Virginia University, took Dr. Bostwick's place as speaker at the dinner meeting. She talked most entertainingly on "The Libraries of Paris."

The newly appointed State Library Commission held its first meeting in connection with the Library Association meeting.

The time and place of the next meeting will be announced later. Officers elected for the ensuing year were: President, Clifford Myers, State Department of Archives and History, Charleston; Vice-President, Louise Hoxie, Marshall College, Huntington; Secretary, Mrs. Vivian R. Boughter, Fairmont State Normal School, Fairmont, and Treasurer, Ora Peters, Concord State Normal School, Athens.

Kentucky Holds Traditional Book Luncheon

THE KENTUCKY Library Association held its twentieth annual meeting at Georgetown at the new Georgetown Public Library Oct. 10-11, 1929. The session opened at 10:30 Thursday, and the address of the morning was by Miss Susan Grey Akers, instructor in the Library School of the University of Wisconsin and now student at the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago. The subject of the discussion was "Cataloging for the Small Library." At the afternoon meeting Edna J. Grauman of the Louisville Free Public Library gave her report on the American Library Association meeting of 1929. The business meeting was then held, after which the librarians were honored by a tea given by the Georgetown College faculty and their wives. The evening program opened with a concert, given by a group of three local artists. The address of welcome was by Victor A. Bradley, trustee of the Georgetown Public Library, and the response by Margaret I. King, Librarian of the University of Kentucky, Lexington. This was followed by the address of Dr. A. M. Stickles, professor of history, Western Kentucky State Teachers College, Bowling Green, "Kentucky History Following the War of 1812." The morning of the second day was taken up with section meetings. Interesting and instructive sessions were reported, and in addition to the Public, School and College and Small Libraries Sections, already organized, arrangements were made for separate departments for the high school and children's librarians for the next annual meeting. The meeting closed with the traditional Book Luncheon and Book Review Round Table, presided over by Miss Harriet Boswell, Librarian of the Carnegie Public Library, Paducah.

Officers for the following year are: President, Mrs. May McClure Currey, Louisville Free Public Library; First Vice-President, Harriet Boswell, Carnegie Public Library, Paducah; Second Vice-President, Jennie Cochran, Louisville Free Public Library; Secretary-Treasurer, Margaret Bailey, Murray Teachers College; Directors, Lena B. Nofcier, Asbury College, Wilmore; Mrs. H. G. Henderson, Georgetown Public Library; Alice Kirk, Berea College, and Alma J. L'Hommedieu, Covington Public Library.

May Lamberton Becker Addresses Nebraska Group

THE NEBRASKA Library Association held its annual meeting at Beatrice October 17 and 18. At the opening session John Ellis, Mayor of Beatrice, and Reverend C. R. Lowe, President of the Library Board, welcomed the members. Ernest Lundeen of Cotner College read a thought-provoking paper on the subject, "What Is a Book?" Mrs. B. W. McLucas of Fairbury conducted an interesting discussion on the problems of trustees. In the afternoon Judge C. B. Letton, State Librarian, gave a résumé of library legislation in Nebraska, and Leora J. Lewis, Secretary of the South Dakota Library Commission, talked on "Problems in County Library Establishment." Miss Lewis outlined briefly what had been done in her own State in the county library movement, and gave an intensely interesting discussion of the movement in general. Thursday evening Mrs. May Lamberton Becker addressed the members of the convention and citizens of Beatrice on the subject, "Our Life in Our Novels." She analyzed many modern novels, comparing them with older fiction and making keen comments on the changes which have taken place in real life as well as in fiction. The morning session on Friday was given over to a book symposium conducted by Lora E. Bolton of the University Library. Those taking part in this program were Nellie M. Carey of Hastings, Lillian C. Gates of Omaha, Rose Banks of Wausa, Marguerite Nesbit of the Library Commission, and Nellie J. Compton of the University Library. Friday afternoon Edna D. Bullock of the Legislative Reference Bureau outlined what has been done in the certification of librarians in various States, and discussed the question of the value of such legislation to Nebraska. Dr. G. W. Rosenlof of the State Department of Education and a member of the new committee appointed by the North Central Association of College and Secondary Schools to revise the standards for school libraries, spoke on the need of Nebraska for more specific standards. The social side of the convention was taken care of by a dinner on Thursday evening, group luncheons and a drive about the beautiful convention city, with a tea at the Country Club on Friday as a delightful closing event.

The following officers were elected: President, Gilbert H. Doane, Librarian, University of Nebraska; First Vice-President, Mrs. Nellie Wilson of Scottsbluff; Second Vice-President, Rose Banks of Wausa; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Lila Woodruff, Lincoln Public Library.

County Library Work Theme of Pacific Northwest Association

THE Twentieth Annual Conference of the Pacific Northwest Library Association was held in Spokane, Wash., Aug. 29-31, with headquarters at the Davenport Hotel. The official attendance registered 125. At the first session a welcome was extended by Miles M. Higley, chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Spokane Public Library, and the response was suitably made by Miss Anne M. Mulheron of the Portland Library Association. The rest of the morning session was taken up by the president, E. S. Robinson of the Vancouver Public Library. Some phase of county library work was discussed at each session and formed the central theme of the conference. Catalog, School Libraries, and Small Libraries had their sectional meetings on the first afternoon, where the relation of each to the county library was considered. At the first general session Miss Jacqueline Noel of the Tacoma Public Library told of the experiences of the county library bill in the State of Washington and of plans for the future. Mrs. Julia Babcock, librarian of the Kern County Free Library, gave a most interesting paper on the operation of the county library system in that State, and was followed by Miss Julia Wright Merrill of A. L. A., who described the general development of county libraries throughout the United States. On Friday morning the Children's, College and Reference, and Large and Medium Sized Libraries sections held their respective meetings. Friday evening Mr. Ridington of the University of British Columbia Library gave a paper on Bliss Carman, Canada's Poet Laureate, and Miss Ethel Sawyer of Portland then illustrated various classifications of the Dewey System with appropriate verse. Saturday morning was the last general session. Mr. Fuller of Spokane gave an interesting paper on the history of bookplates; Mr. Milton J. Ferguson of California State Library gave an account of the library survey in South Africa which he made recently, and Mr. M. M. Stirling, librarian of the Germiston Public Library of South Africa, told about library service and the methods employed in the Union. Officers for the coming year were elected as follows: President, Miss Ellen Garfield Smith, librarian of Walla Walla, with Miss Sarah Virginia Lewis of Seattle, John Hosie of Victoria, Miss Mirpah Blair of Oregon State Library, and Miss Ora Maxwell of Spokane as the remainder of the new executive body.

Ohio Discusses Proposed Tax Amendment

CINCINNATI, OHIO, was the meeting place of the Ohio Library Association from Oct. 9-11. The first session of the thirty-fifth annual meeting was called to order by the President, Julian S. Fowler. Chalmers Hadley, Librarian of the Cincinnati Public Library, gave an address of welcome, which was followed by a business session and a report by the State Librarian, George E. McCormick. He described the condition of chaos into which the State Library has fallen during the eighteen months it was closed, and stated that a survey of the entire library organization would be made as the first move. Seven round tables were held. Mary R. Cochran, Reference Librarian of the University of Cincinnati, presided over the College and University Librarians' round table; Alice K. Bowen, Librarian, Warren G. Harding High School, Warren, acted as Chairman of the School Librarians round table; Martha Ann Jones, First Assistant, Children's Department, Dayton Public Library, directed the Children's Section round table; Mary T. Hardy, Librarian, Van Wert Public Library, presided over the Reference Librarians round table; Freda Silver, Head Cataloger, Lima Public Library, acted as Chairman of the Catalog Section round table; Rena Reese, Cincinnati Public Library, acted as Chairman for the Large Libraries Section round table; and Helen Fox, Librarian, Mansfield Public Library, directed the Small Libraries Section round table. The outstanding problem that came before the Association this year was the proposed tax amendment to the Ohio State Constitution. The former speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives, Robert A. Taft, addressed the organization on this subject. He stated that libraries organized under the school district library law will be seriously affected, but that eventually all libraries will have a much surer financial footing if Ohio tax laws are modernized in accordance with the amendment. A discussion followed, led by Carl P. Vitz, Librarian, Toledo Public Library. A resolution was presented and passed urging the Ohio State Library to make provision for a supplementary collection of books in immigrant languages to help meet the demand for such books. At the final meeting John Cowper Powys, noted English author and lecturer, gave an address on "Ten Great Books" and Dr. P. D. Sherman of Oberlin College spoke on "Recollections of Literary Folk."

The following officers for the coming year were chosen: President, Miss Lillie Wulfekoetter, Head, Branch Department, Public Library of Cincinnati; First Vice-President, Clarence W. Sumner, Librarian, Youngstown Public Library; Second Vice-President, Miss Helen Fox, Librarian, Mansfield Public Library; Third Vice-President, Miss May Templar, High School Librarian, Cuyahoga Falls; Secretary, Miss Elsie Pack, Dayton Public Library; Treasurer, Edgar E. King, Miami University Library, Oxford.

Virginia Library Association

THE ANNUAL meeting of the Virginia Library Association was held in Lynchburg, Va., November first and second, at the Jones Memorial Library. The first general session was opened with a few words of welcome by the President of the Association. Miss Leslie Stevens of the Extension Department of the Virginia State Library, Richmond, Va., had been invited to give a report on the Rosenwald Fund, but being unable to attend the meeting on account of sickness, her paper was read by Wilmer L. Hall of the Virginia State Library. Miss Jeanette Kelly, President of the Virginia Division of the A. A. U. W., gave a very interesting discussion of the A. A. U. W. and the College Library. In the afternoon the membership was divided into four Round Tables for a more intimate discussion of the various phases of library activities. The leader of the College Library Section was Miss Blanche P. McCrum, Librarian, Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Va. The Children's Library Section was under the leadership of Miss Marianne Martin, Children's Librarian of the Jones Memorial Library. The discussions of the School Library Section were conducted by Miss Rachael Wingfield, Librarian of the State Teachers College, Fredericksburg, Va. Miss Mary Louise Dinwiddie, Chairman of the Regional Group of Catalogers of Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia, conducted the round table of the Cataloging Section. The members of the Association were the dinner guests of the Randolph-Macon Woman's College in Smith Memorial Hall. Immediately following the dinner the exercises for the dedication of Randolph-Macon's new library were held in the auditorium of Smith Memorial Hall. Dr. Charles C. Williamson, head of the School of Library Service, Columbia University, gave an inspiring address on library service in a machine age. The exercises were followed by a reception in the library.

Officers elected for the coming year are:

President, Thomas P. Ayer, Librarian, Richmond Public Library; First Vice-President, Miss Theresa Hodges, Librarian, William R. McKenney Free Library, Petersburg; Second Vice-President, Miss Blanche P. McCrum, Li-

brarian, Washington and Lee University, Lexington; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Mary Louise Dinwiddie, Assistant Librarian, University of Virginia.

Michigan Association Hears Mukerji

THE FIRST sessions of the annual meeting of the Michigan Library Association at Grand Rapids October 3-5 were given over to literary topics.

Miss Marta K. Sironen of Grand Rapids, joint author of *Manual of Furniture Arts and Crafts,* discussed "Period Styles in Furniture and the Literature of Furniture"; Paul Stephenson, director of the Civic Players of Grand Rapids, discussed "The Library's Help to the Little Theatre," and Miss Emma Baldwin of Baker and Taylor Company spoke on "Some Impressions of the Fall Publications."

The Thursday evening meeting was given over to an illustrated lecture on "Libraries in Europe" by Theodore W. Koch, Librarian of Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill.

The Friday morning meeting opened with a business session, which was followed by an interesting address by C. B. Joeckel of the University of Michigan Library School, on "Keeping Pace with Michigan; Future Possibilities of Library Development."

Friday afternoon an organ recital was given by Emory Gallup at the Fountain Street Baptist Church, after which automobiles took the guests to high school libraries, furniture showrooms and to a factory making library supplies and appliances. At the conclusion of the various visits a tea was given at the West Side Branch Library.

Friday evening Dhan Gopal Mukerji gave an address on "Life in India." Americans think that education is culture, he said, but culture is a very different thing. Thousands of cultured people can neither read nor write. If man could achieve a synthesis between the American sense of time and the sense of solitude and timelessness of India, then a perfect civilization would be born, he declared.

The Saturday morning meeting consisted of five round tables and group meetings.

The following officers were elected: President, Miss Elisabeth Knapp, chief of the Children's Department, Detroit Public Library; First Vice-President, C. B. Joeckel, of the University of Michigan Library School; Second Vice-President, Miss Margaret Smith, Librarian, Peter White Library, Marquette; Secretary, Mrs. Etta Vivian, Librarian, Ludington; Treasurer, Mrs. Nancy Thomas, Librarian, Baldwin Library, Birmingham.

Wisconsin and Minnesota Hold Joint Meeting

THE THIRTY-EIGHTH annual meeting of the Wisconsin Library Association was held at Wausau, Wis., October 2-4, 1929. Sessions were held in the beautiful new Parcher Memorial wing, which has a large auditorium. The program included a talk by Frank K. Walter, Librarian of the University of Minnesota. Clarence B. Lester of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, who was to speak to the association on conditions of Wisconsin libraries, was unable to attend the meeting, so Miss Mary Emogene Hazeltine, principal of Wisconsin Library School, spoke in his stead.

Prof. Edward A. Ross of the University of Wisconsin gave a very interesting talk on his recent visit to the Far East.

Talks on School Libraries were given by M. H. Jackson of the Library Division of the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and by Miss Mary A. Smith of the Madison Free Library. Miss Harriet C. Long spoke on "County Libraries." Miss Mary K. Reely of the Wisconsin Library School and Miss Mary E. Dousman of the Milwaukee Public Library spoke on the outstanding books of the year.

One of the high-lights of the meeting was an address by Dr. Edward A. Birge, President Emeritus of the University of Wisconsin, on "A Village Library of the Eighteenth Century." Dr. Birge read from family papers an account of the library, its constitution, amusing records of fines incurred, lists of borrowers and the books which they borrowed.

M. S. Dudgeon of the Milwaukee Public Library spoke on "Adult Education and the Small Library," and Miss Almere L. Scott of the Wisconsin University Extension Division told of the ways in which the small library could help her division and vice versa.

The social events of the session included a reception by the Library Board, a luncheon by the ladies of the First Presbyterian Church, an automobile ride about the city and a banquet served at the Wausau Club.

Among the matters taken up at the business session was the invitation of the Minnesota association to hold a joint meeting with that association in 1930. The plan met with favor, but definite date and place of meeting were left to the Executive Committee.

Officers elected for 1930 were: President, S. J. Carter, Milwaukee Public Library; Vice-President, Miss Louise Hunt, Racine Public Library; Secretary, Miss Hazel Laing, Stephenson Memorial Library, Marinette; Treasurer, Mrs. Nellie Kohli, Public Library, Monroe.

Book Reviews

A New Classification for Law Libraries

RECOGNIZING the need of a standard comprehensive classification for law libraries, since the classification devised by George E. Wire and published in the Cutter Expansive, Seventh Classification, has failed to secure general acceptance, Thomas S. Dabagh brings forward a Mnemonic Classification for consideration in the April issue of the *Law Library Journal*, the quarterly publication of the American Association of Law Libraries. The classification has not yet been considered by the Association, and the author cordially invites amplification and criticism. His address is 1729 Virginia Street, Berkeley, Cal.

The guiding principle of the classification has been to secure suitable groupings of related material, arranged logically, and with mnemonic notation, this latter feature utilizing for symbols the initial letters of the words describing the classes and subclasses and re-employing the same descriptive words whenever applicable. The basic division is that of common law (*i.e.*, the legal system of England, the United States, etc.) and other legal systems, preceded by books on librarianship and by catalogs and followed by non-legal material. The secondary division groups the material of each legal system into books of immediate reference, primary sources, secondary sources and miscellany. After these preliminary classifications come the classes and subclasses with notations.

A brief summary cannot give an adequate idea of the entire classification, but one of the shorter divisions may illustrate the principle of the whole. J (Journals, Reviews, Periodicals) is divided into JB (Bar Association reports), JC (Commissions, Learned Societies generally), JN (Newspapers) and JP (Public Documents). Under JP the geographical classification provided in Section F may be used. Great Britain, for instance, is divided into FG (Great Britain, Empire and England), FGC (Channel Islands), FGI (Ireland before Irish Free State), FGM (Man, Isle of), FGN (Northern Island), FGS (Scotland). Under FE, a division of FA (America), states, territories and dépendencies are to be arranged alphabetically. Books in other divisions of J are to be arranged alphabetically by citation, *i.e.*, by the name, whether author, editor, compiler, etc., or title, which most identifies the item.

The Mnemonic Classification can be fitted easily into the principal general classifications. Thus in the Dewey Decimal Classification the whole of class 340 (Law) may be dropped, using instead the Mnemonic notations, preceded, if necessitated by the previous use of other letters (such as B for Biography), by the letter L for Law; or 34 may be used as a preliminary notation. Use of the Mnemonic with the Library of Congress classification can be secured simply by adding the Mnemonic notation to K, the unexpanded notation for law in the L.C. scheme. The Subject Classification (J. D. Brown) uses L400 to L853 for the material included in the Mnemonic, but the use of L4, or, if International Law is not to be included, L43, as a preliminary notation, will effectually unite the systems.

A USEFUL English manual on binding is *Bookbinding; a Manual for Those Interested in the Craft of Binding*, written and illustrated by William F. Matthews, an instructor of bookbinding of the L. C. C. Central School of Arts and Crafts, London (New York: Dutton, cl., 252p., $2.75). It is intended to be a practical handbook rather than a work on the origin and history of the craft, and concentrates on the library style, hollow-back style, and flexible style of binding. Each process is fully illustrated with figures and there are also seven plates.

ONE OF the results of an extended trip through South America made recently by Laurence Vail Coleman, director of the American Association of Museums, is a book entitled *Directory of Museums in South America*. The purpose of the mission, supported by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, was to establish contact with the museums of art, history and science in South America on behalf of museums in the United States. The *Directory* lists one hundred museums in the ten Republics, and is published by the American Association of Museums, Washington, D. C.

Check List of Foreign Newspapers

A CHECK LIST of foreign newspapers in the Library of Congress has been newly compiled under the direction of Henry S. Parsons, Chief of the Periodical Division. It is arranged as a single alphabet of countries, each subalphabeted by cities and towns. Included are 2689 titles, which have been collated, and bibliographical details of dates of establishment changes in titles, periodicity, etc., gathered from all available sources.

From The Library Schools

Atlanta

MONOGRAPHS, books, bibliographies and other publications of alumnæ of the Atlanta Library School are being listed and cataloged in the catalog of the school's professional collection. All graduates are asked to send to the school a complete list of their publications, together with copies of the books, pamphlets or articles so that the school's bibliography and collection of Alumnæ Publications may be as complete as possible. This Alumnæ Collection is part of the measure of the service of the Atlanta Library School at the end of its first quarter century of organization. Contributions should be sent to the Alumnæ Collection, Library School, Carnegie Library of Atlanta.

The Map of Southern Stories for children, published in THE LIBRARY JOURNAL for November 1, 1929, was drawn by Viola Tansey of the class 1929-30.

Drexel

THE DREXEL Institute School of Library Science opened with a record enrollment of forty-eight students. On October ninth the students visited the Free Library of Philadelphia. Mr. Ashurst, the Librarian, spoke to the students, giving them statistics concerning the building and its support. On October 16th Dr. Andrew Keogh, Librarian of Yale University, spoke to the class informally concerning the recent Bibliographical Congress at Rome.

Washington

THE DEVELOPMENT of the University of Washington Library and the growth of the Library School have necessitated a division of administrative labor. Mr. William E. Henry, who has carried the double duties of librarian and dean since 1913, has been relieved of the duties of librarian in order to devote his entire time to the Library School. The title of Librarian Emeritus has been conferred upon Mr. Henry, and Mr. Charles W. Smith, who has been connected with the Library for twenty-four years, has been chosen to succeed Mr. Henry as librarian.

Chicago

THE GRADUATE Library School, University of Chicago, has at present fourteen students who are studying in such fields as adult reading, teaching of library science, bibliography, history of printing and libraries, advanced cataloging and classification.

Dr. James Thompson of the History Department, University of Chicago, is giving a course in Medieval Libraries which will be continued next year. It is hoped that with the appointment of a new Director and some reorganization of the staff likely to follow, it may be possible to provide instruction in administration, reference work and certain other subjects not now represented on the curriculum of the School.

Instead of four fellowships of $1,000 each there will be offered next year three fellowships of $1,500 each.

Los Angeles

THE SCHOOL has purchased a daylight projecting machine, which has simplified the teaching of cataloging. A much larger proportion of perfect cards are made by the students than has been possible before. Bookplates thrown on the screen in connection with the lecture on that subject helped to arouse great enthusiasm, so that each student wished to have her own bookplate.

The plan which has been in operation for many years, of having the graduates of the school who are on the staff of the Los Angeles Public Library act as sponsors for the students in the class, is greatly prized by students. The sponsors invite their charges to lunch or theater, and in many ways make life pleasant. The students speak with great pride of their sponsors and consider them their special friends.

On Oct. 25 Ernest Dawson, head of the famous Dawson's Book Store, talked to the class on "Rare Books." He brought with him many of his treasures, in illuminated manuscripts, block printing and incunabula. The class had been studying these subjects so had some background for appreciation.

Association of American Library Schools

The Association of American Library Schools and the Bibliographical Society of America will meet with A. L. A. members at the Midwinter Conference to be held at the Drake Hotel in Chicago, December 30 and 31.

Groups planning sessions include: The Board on the Library and Adult Education, College Librarians of Middle West, Council, Education Committee, Executive Board, League of Library Commissions, Librarians of Large Public Libraries, Library Extension, Normal School and Teachers College Librarians, and the University and Reference Librarians.

In The Library World

Progress and Growth in Wakefield

A YEAR of progress and growth is the library record for 1928 in the Lucius Beebe Memorial Library, Wakefield, Mass. During the year the material borrowed totals 175,296 books and pamphlets, an increase of about 10 per cent over the total of 1927. This means that for every inhabitant of Wakefield there has been a loan of 11 books, if the 1925 census figures of Wakefield population are used. Taking the population at an unofficial estimate of 17,000, the total circulation shows an average of 10 books for every man, woman and child in the town. Such an average ranks high in the whole country.

Elmwood Public Library Report

THE Annual Report of the Elmwood Public Library (Knight Memorial Building) Providence, R. I., just compiled, shows a circulation of 202,467 volumes for the year, a total increase of 12,353 books for the year and 29,322 increase for the past two years. Of this number 50,646 were issued by the juvenile department. The total number of active registered borrowers is 10,071, representing a circulation of 20 volumes per capita of registered borrowers. The circulation per capita of population for the Elmwood District is eight. The number of books added was 4022, which brings the total number of volumes in the library to 30,356.

Seventeen Years of Service

A CONSOLIDATED report of the Rochester Public Library, covering seventeen years of service, includes summaries dating from the beginning of the library in 1911. This is the sixth publication of its kind and includes annual reports nine to seventeen, covering especially the years 1920 to 1928 inclusive. During those years annual reports were published only in the newspapers.

Fifth Annual Report from Richmond, Virginia

THE fifth annual report of the Richmond Public Library, Virginia, covering the calendar year 1928, shows a substantial gain above last year. The cataloged collection now totals 67,137 volumes and the active enrollment of library borrowers numbers 29,604. Of this number 7627 represents the pupils at remote graded schools served through classroom deposit libraries. A total increase in circulation above 1927 amounts to 37,554 volumes, or a little more than 9 per cent. The circulation for the year 1928 was 437,786, of which 86,733 volumes were circulated to children from classroom libraries.

El Paso, Texas

THE El Paso Public Library held a Spring Festival from April 1-6, the central theme of which was vacation reading for everybody. Those who were planning a travel journey found books, maps and guides on every country. For the great number who will stay at home, reading lists were prepared which will make summer reading entertaining and valuable. Boys and girls were inspired to join the vacation reading club for the privilege of enjoying the delightful books exhibited, and little travelog lists were prepared to help in selecting books to read. The festival gave the public library an opportunity to reach a wider public and inform the citizens of the various activities in which the library is engaged.

Louisville Has Ninety-five Colored Centers

THE report of the Louisville Free Public Library for the fiscal year ending Aug. 31, 1929, reveals that 19.3 per cent of Louisville's population are availing themselves of the privileges of the library system. There are 504 centers for the circulation of books in 227 buildings in Louisville and Jefferson County. The circulation of books was 1,560,676 volumes, an increase of 86,974. In addition, there were 30,198 pictures circulated. The report of circulation does not include the books used in reference work and read at the tables, and no attempt is made to keep a record of the number of times a volume is read when it is taken out of the building. Of the total circulation, 901,524 books were used by adults and 659,152 by children. There are 95 centers for the circulation of books to colored readers in Louisville and Jefferson County. This includes two Carnegie branch libraries, one high school, fifteen stations and seventeen classroom collections. Ten per cent. of the total circulation was loaned to colored readers. In Jefferson County there are 218 centers outside the city of Louisville for the circulation of books for home use. The circulation of books was 77,259 volumes to county borrowers. Books in embossed type for the blind were loaned free of cost to readers in Kentucky and other States. There are 925 volumes in this collection, and the circulation for home use was 643 volumes.

Among Librarians

ELVIRA BIANCHI, Simmons '25, has become librarian of the Wellesley, Mass., High School.

SARA F. BLOOM, Pittsburgh '26, has been appointed as an assistant in the Central Lending Department of the Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh.

MRS. MARY JANE DUSTIN BOWLES, Columbia '28, has come to the Library Association of Portland to be in charge of the Reader's Adviser Service until June, 1930.

VICTORIA BRONSON, formerly of the Lucas County Library, Maumee, Ohio, is now Chief of Circulation in the Akron, Ohio, Public Library.

RENA CARLSON, Pittsburgh '25, is now Librarian at the State Teachers College, Clarion, Pa.

MARGARET CLARK, Pittsburgh '27, has been appointed Reference Librarian, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio.

GLADYS C. CONNOR, Pittsburgh '29, is now an assistant in the New Castle Public Library, New Castle, Pa.

ARDITH COX is now librarian of the East High School, Akron, Ohio.

RUTH CRAWFORD, N. Y. P. L. '26, is now Reference Assistant at the University of Pittsburgh Library, Pa.

RUTH DANIELS has become librarian and teacher of English in the Virgil High School, Kan.

MARY BOSTWICK DAY has been appointed Head Librarian of the new Museum of Science and Industry, founded by Julius Rosenwald, which will occupy the remodeled Fine Arts Building in Jackson Park, Chicago.

LUCILE F. FARGO, formerly connected with A. L. A. Headquarters, has become School Libraries Advisor in the Akron, Ohio, Public Library.

EDWINA L. FITZGERALD is now assistant in the Akron Public Library, Akron, Ohio.

ESTHER FLEMING, Pittsburgh '24, has been appointed First Assistant, Boys and Girls Department, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.

RUTH MARY HAGARTY is in the Children's Department of the Washington, D. C., Public Library.

ANNASUE HUGHES, Wisconsin '28, has joined the staff of the Order Department of the Library Association of Portland.

HAZEL HUTCHINS, Simmons '20, has been appointed supervisor of school libraries in Denver, Colo.

WIL H. HUTCHINSON, Pratt '23, formerly librarian of the Sedalia, Mo., Public Library, has been made librarian of the Paseo High School Branch of the Kansas City, Mo., Public Library.

AGNES LANAFIELD, one of the most successful of the women librarians in Canada and under whose administration the public library of Windsor has tripled in circulation and influence, has resigned that she may assume more strictly domestic duties. This library has been known as one of the most flourishing in the western part of the province of Ontario.

GRACE M. LEAF, Wisconsin '12, has accepted the position of cataloger for the libraries of the Seattle High Schools.

DEBORAH LIPPINCOTT, Drexel '29, is now assistant in the Southeastern Branch of the Washington, D. C., Public Library.

HARRIET LOVE, Wisconsin '27, has been elected librarian of the Horace Mann Junior High School Library, Tulsa, Okla.

GRACE F. LYMAN, Syracuse '19, formerly of the Senior High School Reference Library in New Bedford, Mass., is now Librarian at the Washington Irving High School, Tarrytown, N. Y.

ELSIE MCDONALD, Pittsburgh '29, is now in the Children's Department of the Washington, D. C., Public Library.

MRS. RUTH GROVE MCKEE, Pittsburgh '29, has been appointed Assistant Children's Librarian at the South Side Branch, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.

FRANCES MORRISON, Columbia 1929, became the librarian of the Benson Polytechnic high school, Library Association of Portland, on September 1.

EDITH R. MORSE, Pittsburgh '13, is now Children's Librarian, Tulare County Free Library, Visalia, Cal.

ALICE MURTHA, Pittsburgh '27, has been appointed an assistant in the Homewood Branch, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh.

MADELIENE PROCTOR, Simmons '29, is in the Children's Department of the Washington, D. C., Public Library.

ANNA PRUNTE, Pittsburgh '28, is now an assistant at Duquesne University, Pittsburgh.

MRS. MARY SHAKESPEARE PUECH, for eighteen years librarian of the Rhode Island School of Design, died on Sept. 5, 1929.

PHYLLIS RAYMOND, Simmons '27, has accepted the position of supervisor of school libraries, Union City, N. J.

EDITH RIDGEWAY is now librarian of the Wyandotte High School and Junior College, Kansas City, Kan.

HELEN F. ROBB, Wisconsin '29, is secretary to the Assistant Librarian, Washington, D. C., Public Library.

ALICE ROWE, Simmons '16, has been appointed librarian of the Groton School, Groton, Mass.

RUTH R. RUSSELL, Washington '24 and Western Reserve '28, formerly First Assistant in the Central Children's Room, Seattle Public Library, has been appointed Librarian of the John Marshall Intermediate School, Seattle, in place of Celeste Slauson, Washington '25, who is taking graduate work at the School of Library Service, Columbia.

MARY C. SHEMORRY, Wisconsin '27, succeeds Jane Radford, Wisconsin '23, as librarian of the Shorewood High School Library, Milwaukee.

MARGERY STOCKER, Simmons '28, has been appointed librarian of the Junior High School at New Bedford, Mass.

VERNETTE SUTHERLAND, Pratt '20, is librarian and teacher of English in the New Rochelle, N. Y., Junior High School.

ADELAIDE UNDERHILL, Librarian of the Vassar College Library from 1892 to 1928, has accepted appointment to the board of the Adriance Memorial Library, Poughkeepsie, to succeed Henry Booth, whose death occurred recently.

MARY E. VERNER is now in the Technology Division of the Washington, D. C., Public Library.

LILLIAN WAGNER is now college librarian and instructor in library science at St. Theresa College, Winona, Minn.

KATHERINE WALLER, Pittsburgh '28, is now Itinerant Librarian at the Evanston Public Library, Illinois.

MRS. ALVERN S. WEBBINK is now at the Conduit Road Subbranch of the Washington, D. C., Public Library.

HELEN A. WOLTER, Michigan '27, who has been a member of the Alma College Library staff since July, 1927, has been appointed Assistant Librarian, with faculty ranking of an instructor.

MRS. DOROTHY WILSON YATES, has been appointed Children's Librarian at the San Pedro Branch, Los Angeles Public Library, California.

Missouri Considers Separate Tax

THE TWENTY-NINTH annual meeting of the Missouri Library Association was held in the Jefferson City Public Library October 17-19, 1929, at which all sections of the State were represented. At the opening meeting the Association was welcomed by Governor Henry S. Caulfield. Purd B. Wright presented the central topic of the convention, a proposed constitutional amendment putting public libraries in Missouri on a separate tax outside that for general purposes, as is the tax for schools. At this first meeting there was presented also an extremely interesting and helpful account of Indiana's campaign for a State library building. This was made by Miss Esther U. McNitt, chief of the Indiana History and Archives Division of the State Library, who substituted at the last moment for Louis J. Bailey, the director. Friday morning's meeting, presided over by Charles H. Compton, was devoted to consideration of the proposed constitutional amendment from all possible angles. The recreational side of the convention was most successful, including a visit to the State Capitol, a reception by Mrs. Caulfield at the executive mansion, and a barbecued dinner at McClung Park. Both entertainment and instruction came out of the topic by Dr. H. M. Belden of Missouri University on "Missouri Ballads." Dr. Bostwick's reminiscences of the Rome conference, in the author's absence, were read by Ward Edwards. The business of the convention centered in the passing of a resolution that the "Missouri Library Association favors presenting to the Legislature of 1931 an amendment to the State Constitution providing that the tax for a public library in city, county or school district be made a separate tax, as the tax for schools is at present, and that this amendment if acted upon favorably by the Legislature be submitted to the people for a referendum vote at the next regular or at a special election." In accordance with resolutions passed by the convention the new president appointed the necessary committees for drafting the amendment, and organizing and carrying on the campaign for its passage, for which funds were voted by the Association.

The following officers were elected to serve for the year 1929-1930: President, Purd B. Wright, Kansas City; Vice-President, Harriet M. Horine, Springfield; Secretary, Margaret M. McDonald, Jefferson City; Treasurer, Lucile Brumbaugh, Maryville.

Southern Conference on Education

THE DEDICATION of the new library building at the University of North Carolina was made the occasion of combining the meetings of the second Southern Conference on Education, the Southeastern Library Association, the North Carolina Library Association and the Citizens' Library Movement of North Carolina, Oct. 19-22, and centering the thought of Southern librarians, educators and citizens generally upon the library as one of the principal agencies for lifting the general level of Southern educational attainment.

On Saturday morning, Oct. 19, the dedication took place, with the presentation of the building by Governor O. Max Gardner, acceptance by John Sprunt Hill, Chairman of the Building Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University.

Schalkenbach Foundation Distributes Braille Book

RECENTLY the Trustees of the Robert Schalkenbach Foundation completed the production, in Interpoint Braille for the Blind, of the book *Significant Paragraphs from Progress and Poverty*, written by Henry George, with an Introduction by Prof. John Dewey. This book has now been distributed, with the compliments of the Foundation, to seventy institutions throughout the country which maintain libraries for the blind, and is the first effort to make available in Braille any of the writings of Henry George or of Professor Dewey.

Electra C. Doren Memorial

THE ELECTRA C. DOREN Memorial Committee have placed a memorial portrait of Miss Doren in the Main Library Building of the Dayton, Ohio, Public Library. This portrait will be a lasting reminder to the citizens of Dayton of Miss Doren's life of public service and of her forty years of devotion, labor and constructive effort for the Public Library. The funds for the payment of the portrait were raised by voluntary contributions and the dedicatory services for the unveiling of the portrait took place December 4, 1929, Miss Doren's birthday.

Adult Education to Broadcast

ANNOUNCEMENT has been made by the American Association for Adult Education, New York City, that a six months' survey has been undertaken to determine the possibilities of radio broadcasting as a mechanism in adult education. This study has been made possible through funds supplied by the Carnegie Corporation of New York and is a part of the association's general policy of fostering public interest in educational opportunities for those of mature age.

Printed Things for Gifts

A PUBLIC LIBRARY, that sees the 25th of December coming around and finds itself without funds for buying brand-new copies of books to offer as suggestions for Christmas givers, need not lose heart.

This year the Newark Library arranged an exhibit from its regular stock in trade. It assembled them under the caption of PRINTED THINGS FOR CHRISTMAS, and, besides books, included pamphlets, pictures, greeting cards, periodicals and maps.

About 300 items were shown in eight upright and seven flat cases. Twenty-five different members of the staff joined in selecting material grouped under the following heads:

ALL ABOUT CHRISTMAS
BOOKS DECIDEDLY NEW
MAGAZINES ARE YEAR ROUND GIFTS
HOLIDAY GREETINGS
INEXPENSIVE TRIFLES
CLASSICS FOR CHRISTMAS
BOOKS DELICIOUSLY OLD
PAMPHLETS AS REMEMBRANCES
PRINTS AS GIFTS
SEDATE STANDARDS

SUGGESTIONS FOR THE JANUARY TRAVELER

The selection was as informal as the headings. In the case with "Sedate Standards" was the *Boston Cooking School Book*, the *World Almanac*, the *Home Book of Verse*. "Suggestions for the January Traveler" included the *Handy Reference Atlas*, by Bartholomew, *Motoring in Italy*, by Gordon-Barrett, and a map of Cuba. "Books Decidedly New" were *Manners*, by Helen Hathaway, *Blues*, by William C. Handy, and *Balbus*, by Christian Barman.

The books were open or closed, as their state of wear advised. Always typed legends gave author, title, publisher and price. Brief notes sometimes described books or called attention to other titles in the same series or other editions of the same title. These, in a measure, made up for the disadvantage of showing books under glass. Other copies were usually available, as only a few of the books were very recent publications. Little fiction was included.

Current Literature and Bibliography

In the Current Periodicals

ALIQUIPPA, PA. B. F. JONES MEMORIAL LIBRARY.

Himmelwright, Susan. Aliquippa's beautiful new library. LIB. JOUR. 54:590-592. 1929.

ASSISTANTS.

A. L. A. Committee on Salaries, Insurance and Annuities. A composite picture of the rank and file of the library profession. LIB. JOUR. 54:810-812. 1929.

McNiece, J. S., *ed. The Library and Its Workers.* Wilson, 1929. cl. 422 p., $2.75. ("Classics of American Librarianship").

BEST BOOKS

Van Hoesen, H. B., "Best books" lists a peril to our scholarly profession. LIB. JOUR. 54:837-840 1929.

BOOK BUYING

Ranck, S. H. The business end of book buying [summary]. *Wis. Lib. Bull.* 25:205-209. 1929.

BOOK WEEK

Galloway, Blanche. Joyous Book Week. LIB. JOUR. 54:897-898. 1929.

Kitchell, Jane. How Vincennes celebrated Book Week. LIB. JOUR. 54:893-896. 1929.

BOOKBINDING

Warner, John. Modern bookbinding leathers. *Lib. Assn Record.* n.s. 7:153-164. 1929.

BOOKS AND READING

Lemon, M. D. Reading with a purpose. *Libraries.* 34:427-429. 1929.

BUILDINGS, LIBRARY. *See* COLLEGE LIBRARIES; PROVIDENCE (R. I.) PUBLIC LIBRARY.

BULLETINS. *See* POSTER BULLETINS.

CARD CATALOG

Wilcox, Leila. What the public expects of the catalog. *Mich. Lib. Bull.* 20:216-218. 1929.

CATALOGING

American Library Association. Catalog Section. *Proceedings, Including Annexes and a Directory of Catalog Section Members, Washington, D. C., Conference, May* 13-18, 1929. A. L. A., 1929. pap. 152p. $1.

Goodrich, F. L. D. Doctoral dissertations as a problem in library administration. LIB. JOUR. 54:936-938. 1929.

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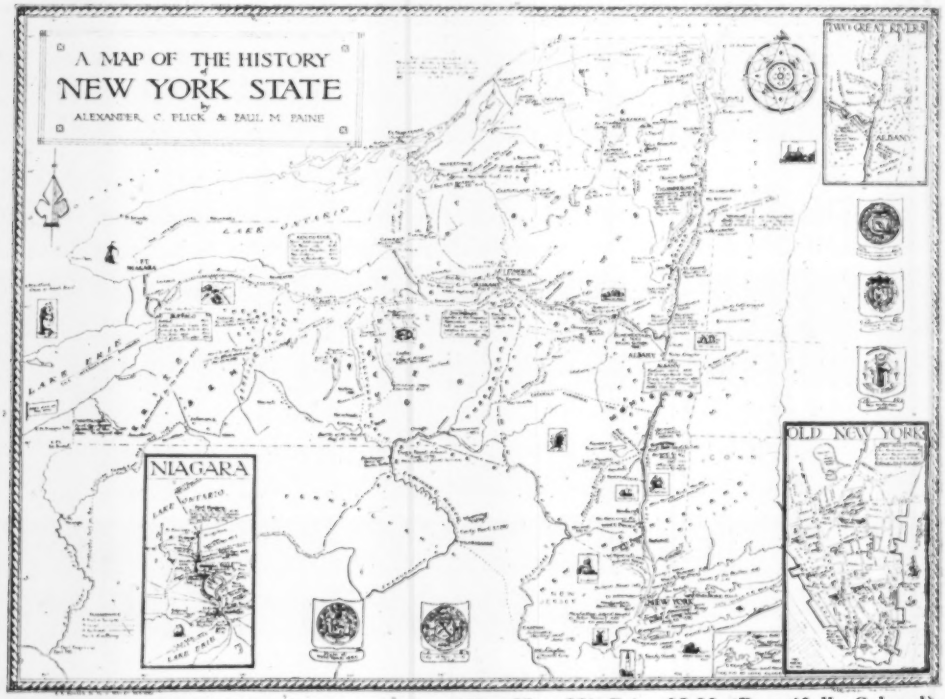

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